

Gloria Gardner, assistant administrator for the department, said the statewide average value for cropland came in at \$1,015 per acre for tax year 2018, down about 27% from 2015 values which were \$1,388. The values are updated every three years as counties undergo their appraisal process.

"The values are dropping pretty significantly due to some of the changes that were in House Bill 49 in 2017 and this is the second year of implementing those changes," Ms. Gardner said. "The woodland values are also coming down."

The budget changes, which originated in the Senate, modified the factors to be used in computing the values and placed a ceiling on the taxable value of CAUV land if it is also used for conservation purposes. The changes were phased across two stages over a six year assessment cycle.

"We sort of had a perfect storm - all of these things coming together - and we had extremely high values that were unwarranted and unfair and unprecedented," Mr. Finnarn said. "Now we're on the road to having more reasonable real estate taxes for farmers and woodland owners."

Not all parties were pleased with the budget changes, however. School groups expressed repeated concerns with how the changes might impact their districts, forecasting a 30% reduction in farming property values that would shift the burden onto other property owners.

Barbara Shaner, advocacy specialist for the Ohio Association of School Business Officials, said those fears continue.

"We're still sorting out the results of the most recent information from the tax department but we also think we won't see the full effect for a few more years because not all the counties have undergone their reevaluation," Ms. Shaner said. "We remain concerned and we'll continue to monitor the way it's turning out."

Ed Board Expected To Debate, Vote On Third-Grade Reading Benchmark

The State Board of Education is set to vote to increase the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion score next weekend at its monthly meeting.

A proposal to raise the benchmark students would need to meet on the Ohio State Test for third grade English and language arts from 672 to 677 was set for a possible vote by the panel's Achievement and Graduation Requirements Committee last month, but it ultimately delayed its decision. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 12, 2018)

The committee is once again scheduled to discuss the proposal at its 8:30 a.m. Tuesday meeting, with the full board expected to consider the resolution enacting the change later that day. The resolution is set for consideration as an emergency measure, so it would take effect before the start of the next school year.

The state board is required by law to review the third grade language arts benchmark and adjust it upward annually until it reaches 700, which indicates proficiency, according to a memo sent to committee members late last month by the Department of Education's legal staff.

Despite the requirement that the score increase, the committee balked at recommending the promotion score be set at 677 last month, with multiple members asking for more time to discuss the potential change with local school district officials.

District 4 board member Pat Bruns at the time said she was concerned raising the score could mean districts' improvements at teaching young readers would not be reflected in state report cards, sending a "false message" to community members.

An overview of the issue provided by ODE to the committee states that: "Because of the state law, the education community is expecting to see a modest increase in the promotion score. No one will be surprised by an increase."

ODE also argues the change in the overall language arts score from 672 to 677 corresponds to the smallest possible increase in the reading subscore, from 44 to 45.

"It is possible this change will not increase the number or percent of students who are retained. If there is a reduction in the number of students promoted, we would expect it to be small," the overview states.

At-large board member Laura Kohler, the committee's chairwoman, previously said she supports the plan to increase the benchmark to 677 because administrators and teachers have been preparing for it with increased aid from the state.

"We're looking at a different landscape than we were a couple of year ago with the supports that are in place," she said.

Subscriber's Note: The full agenda for the State Board of Education's Monday and Tuesday meeting is available online.

Rover, FERC Staff Spar Over Land Restoration, Pipeline Operations

Rover Pipeline operators, long at odds with state regulators, are now amping up their frustration with their federal overseers.

In recent missives, Rover Pipeline LCC blasted Federal Energy Regulatory Commission staff for what it considers the commission's failure to authorize full operation of a major section of the controversial project. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 1, 2018)

The lack of action on FERC's part has left Rover "more than a little baffled," wrote Rover Senior Vice President Chris Sonneborn. But FERC staff said the delays are prompted by Rover's failure to restore land impacted by the project by a June 30 deadline. The

company in recent weeks has informed staff restoration efforts are likely to continue until "at least" July 30.

According to Rover, FERC staff in May authorized service to commence on a main segment of the pipeline called Supply Connector Line B. But in doing so, staff withheld granting in-service authorization for two laterals pending further review.

"As a result of staff's inaction, significant volumes of natural gas have been unable to flow on pipeline facilities that have been completed for nearly a month," Mr. Sonneborn wrote. "This is unfortunate, because...the incremental natural gas supply that would have been available to flow would have been used to offset the large deficit the nation is facing to replenish storage inventories in preparation for the 2018-2019 heating season...."

Failure to act soon, the company claims, is outside "the public interest." But FERC declined to be persuaded by the company's comments. Staff instead responded with a formal notice directing the company to complete outstanding restoration activities at those two Ohio sites.

"Because restoration of these facilities was not complete at the time of in-service authorization, Rover committed to completing the remaining restoration activities by specific dates," wrote John Wood, FERC's deputy director of the Office of Energy Projects. "However, commission staff monitoring certificate compliance believes that rover will be unable to meet a number of those commitments...."

As a result, staff directed Rover to take "prompt and immediate action" and to file prior to July 9 a detailed account of why the company cannot adhere to the agreed upon timetable.

"Neither the commission nor its staff takes lightly a pipeline's commitments to restore and rehabilitate affected lands," Mr. Wood said. "Accordingly, the commission expects pipelines to follow through on their commitments to restore and rehabilitate land and other resources disturbed by the construction of a certificated pipeline."

In response, Mr. Sonneborn issued a second letter this week leveling further attacks, accusing FERC staff of making "several inaccurate statements" toward the project and the company's willingness to fulfill its land restoration commitments.

"For the record, and as Rover has stated previously in this docket on numerous occasions, Rover will honor and meet all of its restoration commitments - whether those are scheduled to occur before or after Rover is fully in service," Rover wrote. "Any implication to the contrary is simply untrue."

Rover now is also accusing FERC staff of "a fundamental misunderstanding" of how the restoration process works.

"A company can supply ample resources, equipment, and personnel to restoration efforts; however, the variable of weather, and therefore the pace of restoration, is simply outside of any pipeline's control," Rover wrote. "There is no amount of planning or resources that can change the reality that on any major pipeline project there are always going to be changes to the restoration schedule due to events outside of the pipeline's control."

The company's public pushback accusing FERC of stating falsehoods is much like the back-and-forth Rover has engaged in with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Rover and the OEPA have engaged in a months-long back and forth with Rover accusing OEPA of cooperating with the company in private but taking an adversarial approach in public.

That tiff ultimately led to a lawsuit filed by the state, which Rover and several other defendants have filed to dismiss. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 5, 2018)

Public Comments Continue On State, Federal Lifeline Proposals

Stakeholder groups and citizens are continuing their efforts to thwart state and federal proposals that would eliminate in whole or in part a federal discount program for low-income customers.

At the state level, AT&T is proposing to discontinue its participation in the federal Lifeline program - which grants eligible customers a \$9.25 monthly credit - in areas in which another provider operates that service.

But the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has yet to approve that plan and in recent days has urged the public to weigh in via written feedback.

Meanwhile, the Federal Communications Commission is weighing a similar but more far-reaching plan that would largely eliminate the resource for a swathe of customers across the country. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 23, 2018)

In the PUCO case, comments have been submitted from a handful of citizens as of Friday, each urging the commission to deny AT&T's plan and maintain the program.

Several commenters described themselves as licensed social workers working with elderly populations. Others are customers who benefit from the program and who labeled the company's attempt to cut it "indefensible" and "abhorrent."

AT&T, for its part, has emphasized that no Ohio customer will lose voice service through the move but will instead receive it at the standard rate. Customers are free, it said, to receive the Lifeline discount from other providers in those areas.

The move "will have only a nominal impact on Ohio consumers who have demonstrated a clear preference for obtaining their Lifeline discount from (companies) other than

AT&T," the company said. "Over the past eight years, AT&T has seen its own Ohio Lifeline subscribership shrink by 94%."

Advocates, though, caution the move would strip vulnerable Ohioans of a valuable resource. The Ohio Consumers' Counsel and the Greater Edgemont Community Coalition are among those protesting the idea. In part, they've urged commissioners to solicit public input and take the federal case into consideration. (Docket)

In the federal case, the Federal Communications Commission is proposing changes critics say will erect more barriers for Lifeline consumers nationwide. There are about 608,000 total subscribers in Ohio, according to proponents of the program.

The PUCO and the Ohio Consumers' Counsel are among parties that have submitted comments in opposition to the federal proposal.

Under the proposed changes, eligible consumers must enroll online first through a third-party verifier and then through a specified carrier. Currently, the customer can enroll directly through their provider.

Proponents of the Lifeline program this week were denied a stay in the case when regulators determined the parties were unlikely to prevail on the merits and would not suffer irreparable injury.

In response, Q Link, the nation's third-largest Lifeline provider, on Thursday filed an emergency motion that if approved would enact additional changes to enable carriers to collect customer information directly from the third-party verifier.

Q Link serves about 40,000 Lifeline customers in Ohio. Sixty-seven percent reside in rural or suburban areas and 82% are new to Lifeline, which the company said indicates they were previously unserved by and may not have access to other providers.

"The...proposed change will be unnecessarily difficult and confusing for consumers," said Q Link CEO Issa Asad in a statement. "Beyond the impact on rural Americans, which will be significant, the new system's failure to include automated links with carriers will unnecessarily cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars."

'Sweeping' Changes In Store After Federal Regulators Reject PJM Capacity Market Plans

Federal regulators voted along party lines recently to toss aside two proposals from PJM Interconnection to revamp the capacity market, paving the way for a potentially drastic shake up in the months ahead.

PJM in April submitted two competing proposals for FERC's consideration on how to best overhaul the market. But in the end, the commission's 3-2 order went far beyond simply rejecting the proposals and instead paves the way for what one dissenting

commissioner labeled "sweeping" changes for the grid operator that serves 13 states. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 7, 2018)

In short, the commission determined subsidies for renewable and nuclear sources have rendered PJM's current tariff "unjust, unreasonable and unduly discriminatory" in that it fails to ensure adequate competition. FERC is now proposing to expand the minimum offer price rule - which enacts a screening process to gauge the competitiveness of new resources - among other changes.

"We find...the PJM Tariff allows resources receiving out-of-market support to significantly affect capacity prices in a manner that will cause unjust and unreasonable and unduly discriminatory rates in PJM regardless of the intent motivating the support," the majority wrote. "We are compelled...to conclude that out-of-market payments by certain PJM states have reached a level sufficient to significantly impact the capacity market clearing prices and the integrity of the resulting price signals on which investors and consumers rely to guide the orderly entry and exit of capacity resources."

Stakeholder groups in Ohio and beyond are still parsing the details of the 106-page order, but they have a short timetable to digest its ramifications. After the 60-day comment window, parties have 30 days for reply comments after which FERC wants to reach a solution.

PJM issued a statement stating its pleasure that FERC is taking action.

"The order appears to be a positive step to change competitive electric market design while recognizing the important role states play in influencing the resource mix through retail energy policies," according to PJM. "We will begin work immediately to develop the kind of bifurcated capacity construct envisioned by the commission and actively engage stakeholders, including the states, within the timetable laid out by the commission."

But FERC's two Democratic members issued scathing dissents regarding the substance of the order and the timeline laid out by the majority.

"Let's be clear: through its action today, the majority signals its intent to adopt, through a 90-day paper hearing, the most sweeping changes to the PJM capacity construct since the market's inception more than a decade ago," Commissioner Cheryl LaFleur wrote in her dissent. "If ultimately adopted, this proposal would fundamentally rebalance the resource adequacy responsibilities of the states, the commission, and PJM."

Commissioner Richard Glick said the commission in its order "entirely fails" to demonstrate its claims the market is unjust and further criticized the timeline.

"Requiring interested parties to decipher today's order, develop testimony, gather evidence, and meaningfully respond within 60 days is irresponsible," he said. "On top of that, this short timeframe essentially guarantees that PJM will not be able to work with the states to develop a proposal that aligns with state policies."

Agency Briefs: Hurst To Replace Plouck At ODMHAS; U.S. Unemployment Rate Up; OSHP; ODNR

Dr. Mark Hurst will replace Tracy Plouck as director of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services next week as Ms. Plouck, a longtime administration official, leaves for the private sector.

Gov. John Kasich announced Dr. Hurst's appointment Friday. He will take over the department effective July 13.

Ms. Plouck has been in Gov. Kasich's cabinet since 2011 and has twice served as state Medicaid director. She also served as deputy director in the Department of Developmental Disabilities and the Office of Budget and Management.

"I'm extremely grateful to Tracy Plouck for her leadership, compassion, counsel and service to Ohio," Gov. Kasich said. "She has a servant spirit and exemplifies the best in public leadership. She is a model for other leaders to follow and I wish her and her family all the best in this new chapter of their lives."

Dr. Hurst has served as medical director at ODMHAS since 2012 and has been at the department since 1993.

"Dr. Hurst's leadership, insights and compassion have distinguished him as a valuable member of our team and contributed mightily to the progress Ohio is beginning to make against addiction and to lift up our fellow Ohioans struggling with mental illness," Gov. Kasich said in a statement. "I appreciate that he's agreed to take on this responsibility. The work ahead is monumental and the challenges will continue to shift, but his leadership has been-and will continue to be-an enormous asset in Ohio's efforts in these areas."

Unemployment: The U.S. added 213,000 jobs in June despite a loss of jobs in retail trade, but the unemployment rate rose to 4% as more people re-entered the labor force, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday.

The unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage points to 4% as the number of unemployed people rose by nearly 500,000 to 6.6 million, the BLS reported.

The overall labor force grew significantly, rising by 601,000, with the labor force participation rate rising 0.2 percentage points to 62.9%, the report said.

The survey found job gains of 50,000 for the month in professional and business services. Manufacturing employment grew by 36,000, mostly in durable goods manufacturing, including fabricated metal products (+7,000), computer and electronic products (+5,000) and primary metals (+3,000).

Motor vehicles and parts manufacturing bounced back from a loss of 8,000 jobs in May with a gain of 12,000 in June, the report found.

Health care employment was up 25,000 for the month, construction was up 13,000 and mining was up 5,000.

Retail trade lost 22,000 jobs, a month after seeing a gain of 25,000 in May.

State Highway Patrol: The patrol reported eight people were killed in four deadly crashes during the Fourth of July reporting period Tuesday and Wednesday. Impairment was a factor in at least one of the deadly crashes.

During last year's reporting period, from June 30 to July 4, there were 21 fatal crashes that killed 21 people, including eight OVI-related crashes, the patrol said.

Troopers made 296 impaired driving arrests and 276 arrests on drug charges. They responded to 297 crashes and assisted more than 2,000 motorists.

"When someone chooses to drive impaired the consequences can be deadly," Patrol Superintendent Col. Paul A. Pride said in a statement. "That's why troopers make OVI enforcement a priority, whether they're patrolling during a holiday weekend or any time of day. Motorists should always pre-plan a sober way home."

Natural Resources: The department's officers and partnering agencies issued 102 citations and 895 warnings last weekend during Operation Dry Water, a nationwide crackdown on impaired boating.

There were three boating-related fatalities in Ohio during the weekend, the ODNR said.

ODNR officers and partners contacted 3,500 boaters on 1,261 vessels for various violations during the crackdown.

The Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management reported that 2,840 permits had been issued for drilling in the Utica shale as of June 30, with 2,370 wells drilled and 1,904 in production.

Burke Blasts Cordray's Medicaid Comments; Soybean Group Sounds Tariff Alarm; Boccieri Calls For More Local Funding

A lawmaker on Friday accused Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray of either lying about or not understanding the issue of Medicaid expansion.

Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville), who chairs the Senate Health, Human Services & Medicaid Committee, accused Mr. Cordray of twice in the past week saying that 26,000 children could be impacted if Medicaid expansion were rolled back.

However, Sen. Burke said in a statement that the expansion covers only childless adults.

"Richard Cordray continues to make Medicaid expansion a key part of his campaign for governor, but his statements over the past week prove he does not understand Ohio's Medicaid program. Cordray's comments in the media show he is either unprepared to be governor, or that he is willing to blatantly lie and use fear tactics to scare Ohioans into voting for him," he said.

"Medicaid comprises over 50% of Ohio's annual budget. If Richard Cordray doesn't understand such a key part of the state budget, then Ohioans simply cannot trust him to sit in the governor's office. Richard Cordray is making promises, and this week he's proven to us that that he doesn't know how he would keep them, even if he wanted to."

In response, the campaign of Mr. Cordray cited a 2016 report from the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families that credited Medicaid expansion for 26,000 children gaining insurance coverage from 2013-2015.

Tariff Concerns: The Ohio Soybean Association is sounding the alarm about retaliatory tariffs China has placed on American soybeans. The tariffs kicked in Friday in response to tariffs enacted by the Trump Administration that same day on an array of Chinese goods.

The group in a statement said 61% of all soybean exports go to China, which accounts for about \$14 billion annually in sales.

"This doesn't only hurt Ohio farmers, it will hurt the entire Ohio economy," said Allen Armstrong, OSA president and soybean farmer from Clark County. "We continue to believe that solutions can be found that do not involve tariffs and a trade war that will hurt all of rural America."

Local Funding: A new report by the Brookings Institute has led to a renewed call for more local government funding.

The report found that from 2010-2017, three Ohio cities ranked in the top 20 in population decline: Youngstown (19), Toledo (12) and Cleveland (5).

Rep. John Boccieri (D-Alliance) in a statement called for additional funding for local governments to stem the tide of population loss.

"You can push the responsibility of raising revenue to the lowest layers of government while sending more and more to state government," he said. "As elected officials, we have a duty to work together to get things done - regardless of who is in charge."

Case Remanded After Judge Cites Article In Sentencing; High Court Denies Stay Of Execution; Buckeye Institute Weighs In On Case...

A federal district court judge erred in doubling a man's sentence after citing a Cleveland.com article on opioid overdoses, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled recently.

Marcus Fleming in July 2016 was pulled over by Canton police and found to be carrying nearly 1,000 grams of cocaine.

Based on federal sentencing guidelines, the prosecution recommended five years in prison for Mr. Fleming.

However, at the sentencing hearing Judge John Adams cited the article before handing down a 10-year sentence.

Mr. Fleming argued he was prejudiced by the use of the article because he did not know it would be cited at the sentencing hearing and he was not provided an opportunity to address the issues raised.

The Sixth Circuit agreed, finding the sentence was rendered in a procedurally unreasonable manner.

"The district court's consideration of information about mixed cocaine-opioid overdose deaths was a surprise because, before the sentencing hearing, there was no indication that opioids were relevant to this case, let alone that they would play a prominent role. Fleming was convicted for possession of cocaine, not opioids," Judge John Rogers wrote in the court's decision.

"Nothing in the record suggested that opioids were found in Fleming's car, or that Fleming had ever sold or possessed opioids, or even that any cocaine Fleming sold had ever been mixed with opioids. Of course, opioids have been a topic of grave public concern in recent years, as their devastating and tragic effects have been felt across the country. But it was far from apparent that they were relevant to Fleming's sentence for possession of cocaine."

Judge Rogers was joined by Judge Raymond Kethledge and Judge Damon Keith in his decision.

The case is remanded back to the district court for sentencing.

Stay Denied: The Ohio Supreme Court has declined to stay the execution of a man set to be put to death this month.

In a unanimous ruling the court declined to stay the July 18 execution of Robert Van Hook.

He is on death row after being convicted of the 1985 murder of David Self.

Judicial Deference: The Buckeye Institute has filed an amicus brief in a case that could end judicial deference to executive agencies' interpretations of the law.

"The practice of courts relying on agencies to interpret the law has proven to be dysfunctional, inconsistent with our constitutional system, and has led to the erosion of individual liberties," President and CEO Robert Alt said in a statement. "It is time for the Supreme Court to junk *Chevron*."

Disciplinary Proceedings: The Board of Professional Conduct announced that 12 cases have been certified for formal disciplinary proceedings.

Portman Sets Sights On Deferred Park Maintenance; Dems Welcome Pruitt's Exit; Ryan Tours Immigrant Facility

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) is among a bipartisan group of senators aiming to tackle about \$12 billion in deferred maintenance within the National Park Service.

He joined with senators Mark Warner (D-VA), Lamar Alexander (R-TN), and Angus King (I-ME) to introduce the Restore Our Parks Act, which has earned support from Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, the National Parks Conservation Association, the Pew Charitable Trusts' Restore America's Parks Campaign and the Outdoor Industry Association.

"For more than a century, the National Park Service has been inspiring Americans to explore the natural beauty of our country," Sen. Portman said in a statement. "But in order to keep that work going, we need to ensure that they have the right resources to maintain our national parks. This bill will create the Legacy Restoration Fund to provide the National Park Service with funds for deferred maintenance projects."

The legislation would provide more than \$100 million in funding for work at parks and historic sites in Ohio. The vast majority of the funding would go toward improvements at two sites: Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial in Put-in-Bay (\$47.7 million) and Cuyahoga Valley National Park in Cuyahoga and Summit counties (\$45.8 million).

Resignation: Democratic members of Ohio's congressional delegation had no kind words for U.S. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt following his resignation Thursday.

"Scott Pruitt used taxpayer dollars to benefit himself while working to gut Lake Erie cleanup and the Renewable Fuel Standard and the Ohio jobs that depend on them," U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown tweeted. "He never should have been confirmed in the first place, and it's past time for him to go."

U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles) issued a brief statement in response to the departure: "It's about time."

U.S. Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-Blacklick) simply tweeted "Byeeeeeeel" with a link to a media report about Mr. Pruitt's resignation.

Immigration: Rep. Ryan and three of his U.S. House colleagues from Michigan on Thursday received a tour of Bethany Christian Services' facility in Grand Rapids and learned about the organization's plans to reunite immigrant children with their families.

Rep. Ryan in a statement called the Trump administration's policy of separating children from parents at the U.S.'s southern border "state sponsored abuse."

"Children are traveling by themselves or with their loved ones to avoid violence and danger in their country, and they fled to the United States to find safety and security. They are doing what any responsible parent would do," he said. "But when they arrive at our border, the Trump Administration turns its back on our values and rips children away from their parents - with zero plan to bring them back together."

Hearing: Sen. Brown and Sen. Portman will conduct a field hearing of a congressional committee charged with solving looming pension problems next week at the Statehouse.

The House and Senate Joint Select Committee on Pensions will meet at 2 p.m. next Friday at in the Finan Hearing Room. The hearing will allow panel members to receive testimony from Ohio workers and retirees who could be affected if Congress fails to take action.

Multiple plans Ohioans participate in, including the Central States Teamsters Pension Plan, the United Mine Workers Pension Plan, the Ironworkers Local 17 Pension Plan, the Ohio Southwest Carpenters Pension Plan and the Bakers and Confectioners Pension Plan "are currently on the "brink of failure," according to a news release from Sen. Portman's office.

The committee, which has 16 members appointed by House and Senate leadership, has been tasked with reporting a bill to resolve the issue by the end of November.

Capitol Scene: Child Caring Group Updates Name

The advocacy group formerly known as the Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies has renamed itself the Ohio Children's Alliance, it was announced Friday.

The change, the group said, reflects the changing environment for child and family services.

"Our new name is more representative of our mission and the composition of our statewide network of community agencies," said Mark Mecum, the group's CEO. "Over the past five decades, our association has grown to over 70 community agencies that provide behavioral health, foster care, and other child and family services. We've also evolved into an alliance that fosters collaboration and innovation. Our new name symbolizes our commitment to Ohio's children and the agencies that serve them."

The organization was founded in 1973.

Governor's Appointments

State Dental Board: Tracy Intihar of Columbus to the for a term beginning July 6, 2018, and ending April 6, 2021.

Public Benefits Advisory Board: Dasmine Wright of Columbus for a term beginning July 6, 2018, and ending June 30, 2021.

Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission: Guy C. Coviello of Youngstown for a term beginning July 6, 2018, and ending June 30, 2023.

Ohio Arts Council: Darryl D. Mehaffie of Greenville, Farid Naffah, MD of Cortland, and Neal F. Zimmers, Jr., JD of Granville have been reappointed to the for terms beginning July 6, 2018, and ending July 1, 2023.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, July 10

Radioactive Materials Committee, 35 E. Chestnut St., Basement Training Room A, Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, July 13

Board of Voting Machine Examiners, 17th Fl., 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Monday, July 9

Release of June casino revenue figures, 1:30 a.m.

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, July 7-Monday, July 9

Legislative Committees

Monday, July 16

Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 3 p.m.

HB 123 **LENDING LAWS (Koehler, K., Ashford, M.)** To modify the Short-Term Loan Act, to specify a minimum duration requirement for loans made under the Small Loan Law and Mortgage Loan Law, and to limit the authority of credit services organizations to broker extensions of credit for buyers. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Agency Calendar

Monday, July 9

State Board of Education, 25 South Front St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.
Controlling Board, North Hearing Rm., Senate Bldg., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Monday, July 9

Release of June casino revenue figures, 1:30 a.m.
Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) golf outing fundraiser, Cooks Creek Golf Club, 14065 U.S. Rt. 23, S. Bloomfield, 11 a.m., (11 am registration; 12 pm shotgun)

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Legislative Committee Schedules beginning 7/9/2018

Monday, July 9

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Tuesday, July 10

Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- If needed

HB 123 **LENDING LAWS (Koehler, K., Ashford, M.)** To modify the Short-Term Loan Act, to specify a minimum duration requirement for loans made under the Small Loan Law and Mortgage Loan Law, and to limit the authority of credit services organizations to broker extensions of credit for buyers. (7th Hearing-Possible amendments & vote)

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 10 a.m.

Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 11 a.m.


Thursday, July 12

Ohio Retirement Study Council (Committee Record) (Chr. Schuring, K., 228-1346), Rm. 121, 10 a.m.
Managed Long-Term Services and Supports Study Committee (Chr. Burke, D., 000-0467), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

- Providers and consumers of MyCare services will be invited to share their perspectives on MyCare Ohio along with Q & A (100 minutes); Quality Measures Data from Department of Medicaid (20 minutes)

Monday, July 16

Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 644-6030), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 1:30 p.m.

NOTE: Click bill or resolution number links to see the legislative history compiled by Gongwer News Service. Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill. Click "Full Text" if present to view the text of legislation on the Legislature's Web site.

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Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) golf outing fundraiser, Cooks Creek Golf Club, 14065 U.S. Rt. 23, S. Bloomfield, 11 a.m., (11 am registration; 12 pm shotgun)

Tuesday, July 10

Rep. Scott Lipps (R-Franklin) fundraiser, Due Amici, 67 E. Gay St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Host: \$1,000, Sponsor: \$500, Patron: \$350 to Friends of Scott Lipps)

Wednesday, July 11

Rep. Richard Brown (D-Canal Winchester) fundraiser, The Paddock Club, 1005 Richardson Rd., Groveport, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor Levels: Sponsor \$250, Host \$100, Guest \$50 to Citizens for Richard Brown)

Thursday, July 12

Rep. Hearcel Craig (D-Columbus) fundraiser, Crest Gastropub, 621 Parsons Ave., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Host \$500, Friend \$250, Supporter \$150; Guest \$69 to Friends of Hearcel F. Craig)

Monday, July 16

Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin) golf outing fundraiser, Mohawk Golf Course, 4399 OH-231, Tiffin, 8:30 a.m., (8:30 am registration; 10 am shotgun)

Tuesday, July 17

Republican Senate Campaign Committee MLB All-Star Game fundraiser, Dock 79, 79 Potomac Ave SE, Washington DC, 5 p.m., (Walk Off: \$5,000 | Grand Slam: \$2,500 | Home Run: \$1,000 to RSCC)

Thursday, July 19

ALEC Annual Meeting, Denver

Sen. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) manicure fundraiser, W Nail Bar, 946 N. High Street, Columbus, 4 p.m., (PAC: \$500 | Individual: \$250 | Young Professional: \$50 to Citizens for Stephanie Kunze. RSVP is required to ensure appointment.)

Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) Batter Up fundraiser, Progressive Field, 2401 Ontario Street, Cleveland, 4 p.m., (4:00pm Warm Up & Batting | 5:30pm Reception. Grand Slam: \$5,000 | Home Run: \$2,500 | Single: \$1,000 | Spectator: \$150 to Friends of Matt Dolan)

Friday, July 20

ALEC Annual Meeting, Denver

Rep. Tom Patton (R-Strongsville) golf outing fundraiser, Mallard Creek Golf Club, 34500 Royalton Road (SR 82), Columbia Station, 10 a.m., (10:00 am Shotgun start; Tournament: \$2,000, Eagle: \$1,000; Foursome: \$600, Birdie:\$5000, Person: \$150 to Friends of Tom Patton)

Saturday, July 21

ALEC Annual Meeting, Denver

Sunday, July 22

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Monday, July 23

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) golf outing fundraiser, Hidden Creek Golf Club, 6245 Sugar Creek Road, Lima, 9 a.m., (9:00am Registration | 10:00am Shotgun Start. Event Sponsor: \$1,000 | Foursome: \$400 | Tee or Green Sponsor: \$200 | Individual Golfer: \$100 to Huffman for Ohio)

Tuesday, July 24

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Gresso's, 961 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Gold: \$2,000; Silver: \$1,000; Bronze: \$500 to Seitz for Ohio)

Wednesday, July 25

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Sen. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) golf outing fundraiser, Eagle Rock Golf Club, 211 Carpenter Road, Defiance, 11 a.m., (11:00am Registration and Lunch | 12:00pm Shotgun Start | 5:30pm Cocktail Hour | 6:00pm Dinner with State Rep. Craig Riedel. Event Sponsor: \$2,500 | Tee Sponsor: \$1,000 | Green Sponsor: \$500 | Foursome: \$400 | Dinner Sponsor: \$250 | Individual Golfer: \$100 to Citizens for McColley)

Thursday, July 26

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Rep. Craig Riedel (R-Defiance) golf outing fundraiser, Eagle Rock Golf Club, 211 Carpenter Rd., Defiance, 9:30 a.m., (9:30 Shotgun Start. Event:\$2,500, Tee:\$1,000, Green:\$500, Foursome:\$400, Golfer: \$100 to Citizens to Elect Craig Riedel)
Rep. Bill Blessing (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Via Vite, 520 Vine St., Cincinnati, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000, Host: \$500, Guest: \$250 to Citizens for Blessing)

Friday, July 27

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Monday, July 30

NCSL Legislative Summit, Los Angeles

Tuesday, July 31

NCSL Legislative Summit, Los Angeles

Deadline to file semi-annual campaign finance reports

Wednesday, August 1

NCSL Legislative Summit, Los Angeles

Rep. Riordan McClain (R-Upper Sandusky) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, August 2

NCSL Legislative Summit, Los Angeles

Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville) Lake Erie fundraiser, Dock's Beach House, 252 W. Lakeshore Drive, Port Clinton, 4 p.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500 | Host: \$1,000 | Guest: \$500 to Citizens for Anne Gonzales)

Friday, August 3

Deadline for statewide candidates to file July campaign finance reports

Speaker Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) golf outing fundraiser, Cliffside Golf, 100 Cliffside Drive, Gallipolis, 9 a.m., (Coffee/Registration: 9:00am; Shotgun Start: 10:00am; Event Chair: \$12,707.79; Event host: \$5,000; Event sponsor: \$2,500; Tee Sponsor: \$1,000; Foursome: \$500; Individual Golfer: \$150; Reception only: \$75 to Friends of Ryan Smith)

Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) fundraiser, FOP Hall, 2249 Payne Ave., Cleveland, 5 p.m., (\$200 (table); \$20 (friend) to Friends of Sandra Williams)

Tuesday, August 7

Special election for 12th Congressional District seat

Rep. Laura Lanese (R-Grove City) fundraiser, Condado, 132 S. High St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Host: \$1,000, Sponsor: \$500, Patron: \$350 to Lanese for Ohio)

Wednesday, August 15

Rep. Theresa Gavarone (R-Bowling Green) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, August 16

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) golf outing fundraiser

Friday, August 17

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) Fly Fishing fundraiser

Monday, August 20

Rep. Laura Lanese (R-Grove City) golf outing fundraiser, Pinnacle Golf Club, 1500 Pinnacle Golf Club Dr., Grove City, 10 a.m., (10:00 am Registration, 11:00 am Shotgun start, Dinner to follow; Event: \$1,500, Food and Beverage: \$700, Golfer: \$150; Hole: \$100 to Lanese for Ohio)

Thursday, August 23

Hamilton County GOP State Legislative golf outing fundraiser

Monday, August 27

Rep. Scott Ryan (R-Newark) golf outing fundraiser, Denison Golf Club, 555 Newark Granville Rd., Granville, 9 a.m., (9:00 am Registration, 10:00 am Shotgun Start. Event: \$2500; Food and Beverage: \$1000; Tee: \$750; Foursome: \$500; Golfer: \$125; Green: \$100 to Citizens for Scott Ryan)

Saturday, September 1

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing May-August 2018 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Thursday, September 6

**Deadline for statewide candidates to file August campaign finance reports
Rep. Rick Carfagna (R-Westerville) golf outing fundraiser**

Friday, September 14

Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) golf outing fundraiser, Springdale Golf Course, 5871 Canterbury Road, North Olmstead, 9 a.m., (9:00 am Shotgun Start, Lunch at the Turn, Dinner to follow; Dinner Sponsor: \$1,500, Lunch Sponsor: \$1,000, Drink Sponsor: \$750, Hole Sponsor: \$100; Foursome: \$500, Single Golfer: \$125, Dinner only: \$60 to Friends of Dave Greenspan)

Thursday, September 27

Sen. President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) shotgun fundraiser

Friday, September 28

**Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) golf outing fundraiser
Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) Day at the Races fundraiser**

Monday, October 1

JLEC Deadline for filing May-August 2018 Activity & Expenditure Report

Wednesday, October 3

Deadline for statewide candidates to file September campaign finance reports

Thursday, October 25

Deadline to file pre-general campaign finance reports

Tuesday, November 6

General election day

Thursday, November 8

2018 Impact Ohio Post Election Conference, Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St., Columbus

Saturday, December 1

Lobbyists can begin renewing Legislative, Executive and Retirement System registrations for 2019

Friday, December 14

Deadline to file post-general campaign finance reports

Monday, December 31

All 2018 Legislative, Executive and Retirement System lobbying registrations expire in OLAC

Thursday, January 31

Deadline to 2018 annual campaign finance reports

Deadline to 2018 annual campaign finance reports

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Tom Gallick, Staff Writers

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From: Flasher, Kim
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 3:19 PM
To: House_All
Subject: Legislative Conferences and Travel
Attachments: Travel Request Form.docx

Memo to: All House Members
From: Speaker Ryan Smith
Date: July 13, 2018
Re: Legislative Conferences Annual Meetings

As you may know, the Ohio General Assembly pays dues to several National Legislative Conferences such as NCSL, CSG, and ALEC. As these organizations begin holding their annual meetings, several of you may be interested in attending.

In the past, the House has allowed a limited number of Members to attend with a set expenditure reimbursement from the State permitted. This year, the House will approve any Member who would like to attend ONE national meeting and will cover the conference registration fees. The Member is liable for all remaining expenses. Such expenses may be covered through personal or campaign funds.

It is advised that you consult with your caucus Legal Counsel before utilizing campaign funds toward any travel.

If you would like to register for one of the annual meetings, please complete the attached "Request for Travel Form" and return it to Kim Flasher in the Administrative Office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.



TRAVEL REQUEST FORM

Traveler _____ Today's Date _____

*I have attached a copy of the conference Itinerary and associated registration fees
for review.*

Conference _____

Conference

Location _____

—

Date Conference Begins _____ Date Conference Ends _____

Request to travel approved:
by:

Expenses to be reimbursed

Representatives
Kim Flasher, Chief Administrative Officer

House of

Service Commission
Date

Legislative

From: Ingram, Catherine
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 4:31 PM
To: Flasher, Kim; House_All
Subject: Re: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Is this message in regard to only the annual meeting or does it also refer to any other event sponsored by said organizations?

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: "Flasher, Kim" <Kim.Flasher@ohiohouse.gov>
Date: 7/13/18 3:18 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: House_All <House_All@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Memo to: All House Members
From: Speaker Ryan Smith
Date: July 13, 2018
Re: Legislative Conferences Annual Meetings

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.

From: Flasher, Kim
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 9:53 PM
To: Ingram, Catherine
CC: House_All
Subject: Re: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Representative Ingram,

Thank you for the question. This applies to all travel.

Have a good weekend,

Kim

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 13, 2018, at 4:31 PM, Ingram, Catherine <Catherine.Ingram@ohiohouse.gov> wrote:

Is this message in regard to only the annual meeting or does it also refer to any other event sponsored by said organizations?

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.

From: Roger Beckett

Sent: Friday, January 8, 2016 12:50 PM

To: Rep88

Subject: Your Invitation to an Evening with Brian Kilmeade



Brian Kilmeade

Co-Host of *Fox & Friends*

Friday, January 22, 2016 at 7:30 PM

Location: Mansfield's Renaissance Theatre



Good afternoon,

I hope you will join the Ashbrook Center for a special event in Mansfield, Ohio as we host best-selling author **Brian Kilmeade**. Kilmeade is well known as co-host of the popular *Fox & Friends* news program and host of the nationally syndicated radio program, *Kilmeade and Friends*.

Kilmeade will provide an in-depth look at his new book, *THOMAS JEFFERSON AND THE TRIPOLI PIRATES*. He will discuss Jefferson, pirates, and national security.

Tickets for general seating in the Renaissance Theatre are available for \$20 each. A book signing will follow.

Kilmeade's book, co-authored by Don Yaeger, was released in November and has already hit #2 on the *New York Times* Best Sellers list. He has written three additional books, two of

which are also *New York Times* Best Sellers, "*The Games Do Count*", "*It's How You Play the Game*", and "*George Washington's Secret Six*", also co-written with Don Yaeger.

This event is the first *Peter W. Schramm Memorial Lecture* and is being graciously sponsored by Samuel H. and Maria Miller and co-sponsored by WMAN Radio. Additional opportunities to co-sponsor the event are available and include a limited number of reserved seat tickets for dinner with Kilmeade before the evening's keynote address.

The event is being held at the Mansfield Renaissance Theatre located at 138 Park Avenue West in Mansfield, Oh 44902.

To purchase tickets or obtain additional information about sponsorship opportunities, visit ashbrook.org/events/kilmeade or contact Jennifer Nixon at the Ashbrook Center at 877-289-5411 or jnixon@ashbrook.org.

I hope to see you there.

Best regards,
Roger L. Beckett
Executive Director

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[Ashbrook Center](#)

401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805

From: The Buckeye Institute
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2016 2:26 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: Ohio's Economy Ends 2015 on High Note

Ohio by the Numbers - December 2015

Contact: Joe Nichols
(614) 224-4422 or Joe@BuckeyeInstitute.org

February 1, 2016

OHIO'S ECONOMY ENDS 2015 ON HIGH NOTE

December's jobs report is positive overall, but energy sector is reeling

COLUMBUS, OHIO--Ohio's labor market enjoyed a strong finish to 2015. Total employment rose by 15,000 jobs, the largest one-month increase since January. However, jobs numbers for the mining sector, which includes oil and gas, reflect the negative impact of low commodity prices and costly regulations.

"December marks the third consecutive month of labor force participation rate increases," said Joe Nichols, a policy analyst at The Buckeye Institute's Economic Research Center. "Employment grew strongly in the final month of the year. However, the good news did not impact everyone as the mining sector experienced more layoffs and is down 11.5% from the previous year. Oil, gas, and coal are in dire straits. In 2016, policymakers should be careful not to kick this industry while it's down. Despite hard times, the energy industry holds plenty of promise for Ohio if bad policy doesn't get in its way."

Key results:

- **Unemployment rate.** The jobless rate rose to 4.7% in November, up from 4.5% a month earlier, but down from 5.1% a year earlier.
- **Labor force participation rate.** The percentage of working-age Ohioans who have a job or are looking for work rose to 62.5% in November, up from 62.4% a month earlier.
- **Total jobs.** Ohio added 15,200 total jobs compared to the previous month (seasonally adjusted) and 82,700 jobs from a year earlier.
- **Private jobs.** Ohio added 15,900 private sector jobs from the previous month and 82,000 jobs from a year earlier.
- **Government jobs.** Federal, state, and local governments lost 700 jobs from the previous month, but remain 700 jobs higher from a year earlier.

Nationally, right-to-work states continue to outperform forced unionization states (including Ohio) in private sector employment, growing by 9.8% compared to 7.9% in forced union states.

Overall, Ohio had a total of 5,451,500 workers holding jobs that paid wages or salaries in December, according to federal data.

The good and the bad in December:

Winners

- **Nondurable goods manufacturing.** The industry added 3,300 jobs, up 1.5%.
- **Wholesale trade.** The sector gained 2,500 jobs, a 1.1% increase.

Losers

- **Mining and logging.** The industry saw a 1.4% drop.
- **Arts, entertainment, and recreation.** This sector employed 2,300 fewer people, a loss of 3.1% of its workforce, a decline that appears to be weather-related.

To view the full report, click [here](#).


Ohio by the Numbers

Labor Force Report

###

Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute is an independent research and educational institution -- a think tank -- whose mission is to advance free-market public policy.

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The Buckeye Institute | 88 E. Broad Street | Suite 1120 | Columbus | OH | 43215

From: Ohio United Way
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2016 1:25 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: 2016 Legislative Luncheon Invitation

Ohio United Way

LIVE UNITED 

GIVE

ADVOCATE

VOLUNTEER

You & your staff are cordially invited to attend

**Ohio United Way's
2016 Legislative Luncheon**
Wednesday, April 13, 2016
11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
The Ohio Statehouse Atrium
Columbus, Ohio

This year's luncheon program will feature:

A Salute to Our Military Veterans

**Connecting Our Veterans
& Their Families To Services**

**Presentation of the
Dr. Richard N. Aft – Live United Awards
& United Way of the Year Award**

**To reserve your seat, please submit your
R.S.V.P. by Friday, March 25
to Timothy Jadlot-Roe, Director, Public Policy at
troe@ouw.org or by calling (614) 224-8146.**


###

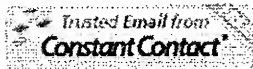
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Timothy Jadlot-Roe, Director, Public Policy, at (614) 224-8146 or troe@ouw.org.

Connect with us



Ohio United Way | 395 E. Broad St | Columbus | OH | 43215

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Try it FREE today.

From: Ohio United Way
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 10:55 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: REMINDER: 2016 Legislative Luncheon Invitation

Ohio
United Way

LIVE UNITED



GIVE.

ADVOCATE.

VOLUNTEER.

This is a reminder to all who have
not yet submitted your RSVP or regrets
for this year's Legislative Luncheon.

You & your staff are cordially invited to attend

**Ohio United Way's
2016 Legislative Luncheon**

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

The Ohio Statehouse Atrium
Columbus, Ohio

This year's luncheon program will feature:

A Salute to Our Military Veterans

Connecting Our Veterans

& Their Families To Services

**Presentation of the
Dr. Richard N. Aft - Live United Awards
& United Way of the Year Award**

**To reserve your seat, please submit your
R.S.V.P. by Friday, March 25
to Timothy Jadlot-Roe, Director, Public Policy at
troe@ouw.org or by calling (614) 224-8146.**

###

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Timothy Jadlot-Roe, Director, Public Policy, at (614) 224-8146 or troe@ouw.org.

Connect with us



Ohio United Way | 395 E. Broad St | Columbus | OH | 43215

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Try it FREE today.

From: anuzisforchair.activehosted.com@s320.acemserv.com on behalf of Saul Anuzis [sanuzis@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2016 5:36 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Weekly Musing 2-28-16

Weekly Musing 2-28-16

Saul Anuzis

Days until the 2016 election: 253...

Ted Cruz, A Personal Look At A Humble Man

Having had the opportunity to meet most of the Republican candidates and look them in the eyes, I can tell you that Ted Cruz is the best candidate to uphold the Constitution and put the interests of the American people first.

I first met Ted in 2010 at an American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) conference, which is a conference for state legislators that was being held in Washington, DC. He was there to speak on a panel about the Health Care Compact, a project of interstate compacts that would effectively transfer the regulatory

authority for health care from the federal government back to the states. My boss at the time was also speaking on the panel, which led to our meeting.

After the panel discussion, a group of us decided to eat breakfast in the hotel lobby. Ted and I ended up sitting down at the table first. We shared a five-minute conversation before the rest of our group joined us and in that time we spoke casually, introducing ourselves and talking about why we were there. This was my first impression of him and he was extremely humble and somewhat soft spoken. It is something that has stuck over the years.

...But Hayek warned about what we are seeing right now in his book, *The Road to Serfdom*. Its premise was that, over time, free governments became so dysfunctional that the masses were open to the words of a "strongman" who would return order. The catch in this Faustian bargain was that freedom would be lost in the process. One hundred years earlier, Edward Gibbon wrote of the same as he recounted how the Athenians gave up freedom in exchange for security — and lost both.

Maybe I am wrong on all this, and Trump is simply a disruptive force in politics that will generate change much like new technology does ☞ 0 but maybe not. History would suggest we are playing with fire and need to step away from the entertainment found in the Republican primaries and think about what's really at play. It's worth a thought.

<http://dailycaller.com/2016/02/25/ted-cruz-a-personal-look-at-a-humble-man/#ixzz41KSeWCuk>

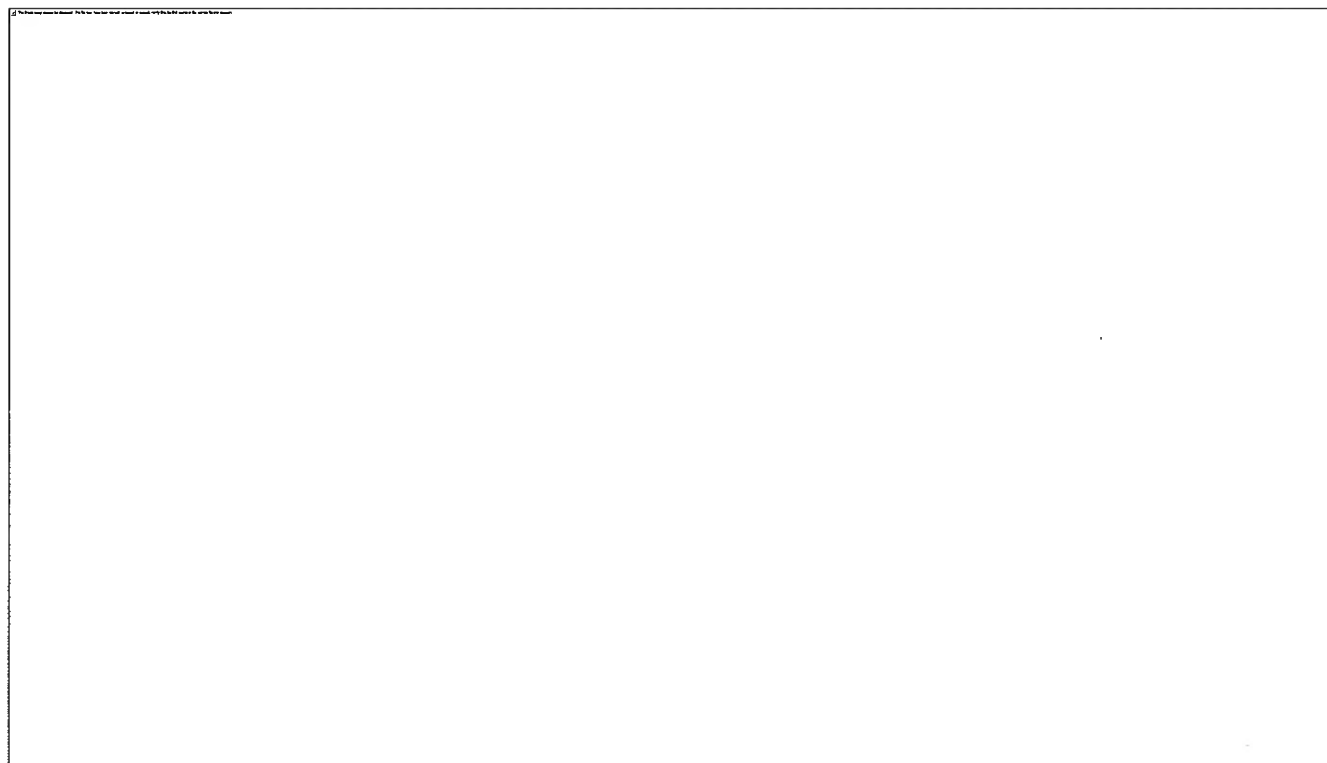
Inside the Republican Party's Desperate Mission to Stop Donald Trump

In public, there were calls for the party to unite behind a single candidate. In dozens of interviews, elected officials, political strategists and donors described a frantic, last-ditch campaign to block Mr. Trump = 2 and the agonizing reasons that many of them have become convinced it will fail. Behind the scenes, a desperate mission to save the party sputtered and stalled at every turn.

Efforts to unite warring candidates behind one failed spectacularly: An overture from Senator Marco Rubio to Mr. Christie angered and insulted the governor. An unsubtle appeal from Mitt Romney to John Kasich, about the party's need to consolidate behind one rival to Mr. Trump, fell on deaf ears.

At least two campaigns have drafted plans to overtake Mr. Trump in a brokered convention, and the Senate majority leader, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, has laid out a plan that would have lawmakers break with Mr. Trump explicitly in a general election.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/28/us/politics/donald-trump-republican-party.html?ref=politics&r=1&smid=tw-nytpolitics&smtyp=cur>



Wow...finally the truth...but at what cost???

Ted Cruz isn't running a dirty campaign, but that perception just cost a staffer his job.

Ted Cruz is not running a dirty campaign, despite what Donald Trump and Marco Rubio would argue. But that idea just cost Cruz's spokesman, Rick Tyler, his job.

His campaign's clumsy effort to translate Ben Carson's post-Iowa travel into a Carson concession was unfair, but it likely didn't make

much difference and can probably be chalked up to zealousness as much as anything. That "you haven't voted" flyer in Iowa was poorly received, but it was based in sound political research -- and was only sent to a few thousand people who probably wouldn't have voted anyway. Cruz's ads against Trump, quoting Trump's past positions as stated by Trump himself, are fair game, despite Trump's threats to sue. There were late robocalls in South Carolina hammering Donald Trump for being liberal, but those were from a PAC, not the campaign itself. Reports of "push polls" and other gauzy nonsense appear to be unfounded.

But that we have to list all of these things proves the point: Cruz has a perception problem, for two reasons.

First, his opponents are more than willing to make a big deal out of these not-very-big issues because it serves their own political goals to do so. Trump plays them up because he wants people to think that maybe he won Iowa, which he didn't. Carson plays them up because he wants people to think that he's actually a good candidate, which he isn't.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2016/02/22/ted-cruz-isnt-running-a-dirty-campaign-but-that-perception-just-cost-a-staffer-his-job/>

Trump Is More Vulnerable Than You Think

Most in the national news media are talking about how Donald Trump is now the clear Republican frontrunner and will be nearly impossible to stop. They are only partially right.

Trump, who won South Carolina (and all of its delegates) with a little under one-third of the vote, certainly is the front-runner. He has won two of the first three contests and has a clear lead in delegates. He should do well on March 1, when many Southern states hold their primaries and more than 600 delegates are at stake. By definition, that makes him the front-runner.

But the Palmetto State primary results, combined with recent national polls, suggest that Trump remains a tentative front-runner, not some kind of unstoppable favorite.

... Those who believe that Trump is unstoppable frequently note that no Republican who has won both New Hampshire and South Carolina has been denied the GOP's nomination.

That's true, but I believe that we have already established that the old "rules" do not apply, so I am not sure why anyone should regard two primary victories this year as an iron law of Republican politics.

<http://blogs.rollcall.com/rothenblog/trump-remains-tentative-front-runner/?dcz>

The Republican Contest and Preferential Voting

After Ted Cruz's Iowa victory, Donald Trump should be congratulated for winning three straight contests in New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada, but the fact is that a large majority of voters voted for somebody else. In fact, it's a good bet that he would have lost head-to-head in at South Carolina and perhaps New Hampshire.

Trump is not running against just one candidate, of course, and he's playing by our current rules of the game. But a recent analysis of 16 surveys over the past three months with head-to-head comparisons how different the race would be going if Trump had faced only Ted Cruz or Marco Rubio -- or if we had used preferential voting in our primaries.

Trump wins the head-to-head contest against both Rubio and Cruz in just four of the 16 polls, yet has a lead of at least 10% in the "against all candidates" question in 11 of these polls. He trails head-to-head in five of the six national polls, and both Rubio and close the gap between the plurality vote and the head-to-head in every poll. You can see this graphically in a College of William and Mary / FairVote national YouGov survey of 1,000 Republican and independents likely voters- see the full report and a useful interactive feature where you can run a preferential voting tally round-by-round and see the impact of eliminating any candidates you want to.

Trump's success may depend less on the voters than on whether the opposition rallies around just one candidate. But with preferential voting, candidates wouldn't have to drop out to get a fair outcome. Voters instead would have their vote count for second choice if their first choice doesn't have enough votes to win delegates, and we could have matched the frontrunner against their strongest opponent head-to-head in every state. The College of William and Mary poll shows a solid majority of Republican primary voters like the idea - -and so do I.

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Getting the property back can be long, costly, and maybe impossible, even if no criminal charges are ever filed. Depending on the amount seized and the person's situation, the time and cost involved may not justify the effort.

http://rare.us/story/in-america-today-police-can-seize-your-property-without-charging-you-with-a-crime/?utm_source=HermanCain&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=Partnership

12 Sites In Michigan Will Remind You How Stunning America Truly Is

The great United States of America are filled with places and people to be proud of. And Michigan has played a huge part in our nation's rich history.

We've dug up the stories of some of the places that put Michigan in the history books. Take a look.

<http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/michigan/sites-mi/>

=

Download the official MIGOP app
for Android, iPhone, or
Windows Phone today for FREE!



Google play



Apple Store



Microsoft Store



Ronna Romney McDaniel, Chairman MIGOP



NEW Mobile App for Parties & Candidates

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Our apps are native meaning they use the full power of smart mobile devices to provide rich features such as video, navigation, customized alerts linked to specific content, events calendaring, conventions, ballot registration and voting, breaking news, donations, blogs, instant polls and surveys and more.

And they are fully customizable. So check out one of the apps that is currently live. Just go to your app store on either an Apple, Android or Windows phone and search for:

New York GOP (New York State Republican Party)

TN GOP (Tennessee Republican Party)

Michigan Republican Party

WSRP (Washington State Republican Party)

Republican Party of Louisiana

Republican Liberty Caucus

Tea Party Nation

NYS Conservative Party

USVI GOP (Virgin Islands Republican Party)

Lisa Posthumus Lyons (State Representative-MI)

Triston Cole (State Representative-MI)

Gowan for Arizona (Gowan for Congress)

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www.rightmobile.us

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One day she was challenging her father on his opposition to higher taxes on the rich and the addition of more government welfare programs. The self-professed objectivity proclaimed by her professors had to be the truth and she indicated so to her father. He responded by asking how she was doing in school.

Taken aback, she answered rather haughtily that she had a 4.0 GPA, and let him know that it was tough to maintain, insisting that she was taking a very difficult course load and was constantly studying, which left her no time to go out and party like other people she knew. She didn't even have time for a boyfriend, and didn't really have many college friends because she spent all her time studying.

Her father listened and then asked, "How is your friend Audrey doing?" She replied, "Audrey is barely getting by. All she takes are easy classes, she never studies, and she barely has a 2.0 GPA. She is so popular on campus; college for her is a blast. She's always invited to all the parties, and lots of times she doesn't even show up for classes because she's too hung over."

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The daughter, visibly shocked by her father's suggestion, angrily fired back, "That wouldn't be fair! I have worked really hard for my grades! I've invested a lot of time, and a lot of hard work! Audrey has done next to nothing toward her degree. She played while I worked my tail off!"

The father slowly smiled, winked and said gently, "Welcome to the Republican party."

It's as simple as that.



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After 21 years of marriage, my wife wanted me to take another woman out to dinner and a movie. She said, "I love you, but I know this other woman loves you and would love to spend some time with you."

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<http://thedailyheadline.com/his-wife-of-21-years-made-him-take-another-woman-to-dinner-this-is-priceless/>

Stay In Touch...Feel Free to Share

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Please share.

Feel free to follow me on Twitter and/or Facebook.

On Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/sanuzis>

On Twitter at:

@sanuzis

My blog "That's Saul Folks" with Weekly Musings & more:

<http://thatssaulfolks.com/>

Thanks again for all you do!

Sent to: rep88@ohiohouse.gov

[Unsubscribe](#)

Saul Anuzis, 5 Locust Lane, Lansing, MI 48911, USA

From: anuzisforchair.activehosted.com@s320.acemserv.com on behalf of Saul Anuzis [sanuzis@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2016 5:36 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Weekly Musing 2-28-16

Weekly Musing 2-28-16

Saul Anuzis

Days until the 2016 election: 253...

Ted Cruz, A Personal Look At A Humble Man

Having had the opportunity to meet most of the Republican candidates and look them in the eyes, I can tell you that Ted Cruz is the best candidate to uphold the Constitution and put the interests of the American people first.

I first met Ted in 2010 at an American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) conference, which is a conference for state legislators that was being held in Washington, DC. He was there to speak on a panel about the Health Care Compact, a project of interstate compacts that would effectively transfer the regulatory

authority for health care from the federal government back to the states. My boss at the time was also speaking on the panel, which led to our meeting.

After the panel discussion, a group of us decided to eat breakfast in the hotel lobby. Ted and I ended up sitting down at the table first. We shared a five-minute conversation before the rest of our group joined us and in that time we spoke casually, introducing ourselves and talking about why we were there. This was my first impression of him and he was extremely humble and somewhat soft spoken. It is something that has stuck over the years.

...But Hayek warned about what we are seeing right now in his book, *The Road to Serfdom*. Its premise was that, over time, free governments became so dysfunctional that the masses were open to the words of a "strongman" who would return order. The catch in this Faustian bargain was that freedom would be lost in the process. One hundred years earlier, Edward Gibbon wrote of the same as he recounted how the Athenians gave up freedom in exchange for security — and lost both.

Maybe I am wrong on all this, and Trump is simply a disruptive force in politics that will generate change much like new technology does ☞ 0 but maybe not. History would suggest we are playing with fire and need to step away from the entertainment found in the Republican primaries and think about what's really at play. It's worth a thought.

<http://dailycaller.com/2016/02/25/ted-cruz-a-personal-look-at-a-humble-man/#ixzz41KSeWCuk>

Inside the Republican Party's Desperate Mission to Stop Donald Trump

In public, there were calls for the party to unite behind a single candidate. In dozens of interviews, elected officials, political strategists and donors described a frantic, last-ditch campaign to block Mr. Trump = 2 and the agonizing reasons that many of them have become convinced it will fail. Behind the scenes, a desperate mission to save the party sputtered and stalled at every turn.

Efforts to unite warring candidates behind one failed spectacularly: An overture from Senator Marco Rubio to Mr. Christie angered and insulted the governor. An unsubtle appeal from Mitt Romney to John Kasich, about the party's need to consolidate behind one rival to Mr. Trump, fell on deaf ears.

At least two campaigns have drafted plans to overtake Mr. Trump in a brokered convention, and the Senate majority leader, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, has laid out a plan that would have lawmakers break with Mr. Trump explicitly in a general election.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/28/us/politics/donald-trump-republican-party.html?ref=politics&r=1&smid=tw-nytpolitics&smtyp=cur>

Wow...finally the truth...but at what cost???

Ted Cruz isn't running a dirty campaign, but that perception just cost a staffer his job.

Ted Cruz is not running a dirty campaign, despite what Donald Trump and Marco Rubio would argue. But that idea just cost Cruz's spokesman, Rick Tyler, his job.

His campaign's clumsy effort to translate Ben Carson's post-Iowa travel into a Carson concession was unfair, but it likely didn't make

much difference and can probably be chalked up to zealousness as much as anything. That "you haven't voted" flyer in Iowa was poorly received, but it was based in sound political research -- and was only sent to a few thousand people who probably wouldn't have voted anyway. Cruz's ads against Trump, quoting Trump's past positions as stated by Trump himself, are fair game, despite Trump's threats to sue. There were late robocalls in South Carolina hammering Donald Trump for being liberal, but those were from a PAC, not the campaign itself. Reports of "push polls" and other gauzy nonsense appear to be unfounded.

But that we have to list all of these things proves the point: Cruz has a perception problem, for two reasons.

First, his opponents are more than willing to make a big deal out of these not-very-big issues because it serves their own political goals to do so. Trump plays them up because he wants people to think that maybe he won Iowa, which he didn't. Carson plays them up because he wants people to think that he's actually a good candidate, which he isn't.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2016/02/22/ted-cruz-isnt-running-a-dirty-campaign-but-that-perception-just-cost-a-staffer-his-job/>

Trump Is More Vulnerable Than You Think

Most in the national news media are talking about how Donald Trump is now the clear Republican frontrunner and will be nearly impossible to stop. They are only partially right.

Trump, who won South Carolina (and all of its delegates) with a little under one-third of the vote, certainly is the front-runner. He has won two of the first three contests and has a clear lead in delegates. He should do well on March 1, when many Southern states hold their primaries and more than 600 delegates are at stake. By definition, that makes him the front-runner.

But the Palmetto State primary results, combined with recent national polls, suggest that Trump remains a tentative front-runner, not some kind of unstoppable favorite.

... Those who believe that Trump is unstoppable frequently note that no Republican who has won both New Hampshire and South Carolina has been denied the GOP's nomination.

That's true, but I believe that we have already established that the old "rules" do not apply, so I am not sure why anyone should regard two primary victories this year as an iron law of Republican politics.

<http://blogs.rollcall.com/rothenblog/trump-remains-tentative-front-runner/?dcz>

The Republican Contest and Preferential Voting

After Ted Cruz's Iowa victory, Donald Trump should be congratulated for winning three straight contests in New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada, but the fact is that a large majority of voters voted for somebody else. In fact, it's a good bet that he would have lost head-to-head in at South Carolina and perhaps New Hampshire.

Trump is not running against just one candidate, of course, and he's playing by our current rules of the game. But a recent analysis of 16 surveys over the past three months with head-to-head comparisons show how different the race would be going if Trump had faced only Ted Cruz or Marco Rubio -- or if we had used preferential voting in our primaries.

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<http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/michigan/sites-mi/>

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Download the official MIGOP app
for Android, iPhone, or
Windows Phone today for FREE!



Google play



Apple Store



Microsoft Store

★★★★★★★★★★



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@sanuzis

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<http://thatssaulfolks.com/>

Thanks again for all you do!

Sent to: rep88@ohiohouse.gov

[Unsubscribe](#)

Saul Anuzis, 5 Locust Lane, Lansing, MI 48911, USA

From: Joe Nichols

Sent: Wednesday, March 2, 2016 5:11 PM

Subject: Invitation: Friday energy luncheon for Millennials @ Athletic Club of Columbus

President Obama's new carbon rules are poised to hurt American families and businesses with electric bill increases and diminished job prospects. Join The Buckeye Institute's Joe Nichols, Heritage Foundation economist Nick Loris and other young experts to learn how the policy hurts Millennials.

Energy for a Rising Generation is an initiative of the Texas Public Policy Foundation. Attorney Leigh Thompson, a policy analyst at the foundation, will host the free 90-minute event. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., Friday, March 4th in the Crystal Room of the Athletic Club of Columbus.

<http://www.texaspolicy.com/events/detail/energy-for-a-rising-generation-columbus-oh>

Joe Nichols

Policy Analyst, Economic Research Center

The Buckeye Institute

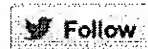
88 East Broad Street, Suite 1120 | Columbus, Ohio 43215

(614) 224-4422 | BuckeyeInstitute.org

From: Public Policy Law360
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:03 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Dems Demand SEC Nominees' Views On Spending Disclosure



Wednesday, March 16, 2016



TOP NEWS

Dems Demand SEC Nominees' Views On Spending Disclosure

A Senate confirmation hearing on Tuesday for two prospective members of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission turned feisty when top Democrats threatened to withhold their votes on the nominees if they don't make clear their stance on whether the agency should pass a rule requiring political spending disclosures by public companies.

CDC Proposes Limits For Opioid Painkillers

Reacting to a dramatic increase in overdose deaths from opioids, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released new guidelines Tuesday asking providers to think twice before giving patients opioid painkillers.

Obama Removes Atlantic From Offshore Drilling Plan

The Obama administration on Tuesday put the Atlantic Ocean off limits in its proposed five-year offshore drilling plan, an about-face that's a victory for environmentalists, East Coast communities and lawmakers that opposed the plan and a defeat for the U.S. oil industry.

House Committee Skewers Ex-EPA Official Over Flint Crisis

LAW FIRMS

Akin Gump
Arnold & Porter
Baker & McKenzie
Blank Rome
Boies Schiller
Caplin & Drysdale
Chiesa Shahnian
Covington & Burling
Cozen O'Connor
Cravath Swaine
Dechert
Dentons
Diaz Reus
Drinker Biddle
Feldman Gale
Fitzpatrick Cella
Fried Frank
Frommer Lawrence
Gibson Dunn
Goodwin Procter
GrayRobinson
Holland & Knight
Husch Blackwell
Jenner & Block
Jones Day
Kasowitz Benson

The former U.S. Environmental Protection Agency official responsible for handling the Flint, Michigan, lead drinking water crisis faced withering criticism from the a U.S. House of Representatives committee on Tuesday, but defended the EPA's performance, saying she believes no one "did anything wrong."

Obama Nominates Ex-Jones Day Atty For 3rd Circ.

President Barack Obama on Tuesday nominated an assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania and former Jones Day attorney to serve on the Third Circuit, U.S. Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., confirmed.

FCC Chair Defends \$368M Budget Request To Congress

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Tom Wheeler defended the agency's \$368 million budget request for fiscal year 2017 Tuesday from criticism by a House Appropriations subcommittee chair and fellow commissioner Ajit Pai, who pushed for restraint in the industry fee-funded budget.

BANKING & SECURITIES

Dodd-Frank Regs Should Spare Well-Capitalized Banks: Rep.

A top House Republican lawmaker on Tuesday outlined an alternative to the financial regulatory system set up by the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act that includes an option for banks to raise their capital levels in order to escape the financial reform law's rules

FDIC Watchdog Rips Efforts To Halt Banks' Tax-Refund Loans

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.'s internal watchdog on Tuesday blasted the "aggressive and unprecedented efforts" to use the agency's power to force banks to stop offering a certain type of loan tied to income tax return filings,

Kramer Levin
Latham & Watkins
Ludwig & Robinson
McGuireWoods
Miller Starr
Morrison & Foerster
Motley Rice
Orrick Herrington
Paul Hastings
Pillsbury Winthrop
Proskauer Rose
Reed Smith
Scarinci Hollenbeck
Schiff Hardin
Schnader Harrison
Seyfarth Shaw
Spector Gadon
Spiegel & McDiarmid
Stevens & Lee
Wilson Sonsini
Winston & Strawn

COMPANIES

AT&T Inc.
AbbVie Inc.
Altman Weil Inc.
America's Health Insurance Plans
American Airlines Group Inc.
American Bankers Association
American Bar Association
American Cable Association
American Medical Association Inc.
American Petroleum Institute Inc.
Apple Inc.
Arch Coal Inc.
BP p.l.c.
Center for Strategic and
International Studies
Comcast Corporation

saying the agency must work to avoid similar issues in the future.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL

House Votes To Ease EPA Rules For Coal Refuse Power Plants

The U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday passed a bill to loosen certain U.S. Environmental Protection Agency air pollution rules for power plants that burn so-called coal refuse, over vehement opposition from House Democrats and the White House.

HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES

Hospira Urges Fed. Circ. To Keep On-Sale Bar For Patents

Hospira Inc. on Monday protested calls for the Federal Circuit to limit the on-sale bar to patenting inventions to public sales or exclude confidential sales, arguing inventors could game the system to extend the term of their patents.

IP & TECHNOLOGY

Fla. Anti-Patent Troll Law Scaled Back To Protect IP Rights

Florida Gov. Rick Scott is poised to sign a revision to the state's one-year-old anti-patent troll law that patent attorneys say narrows the scope of the original legislation, which is intended to discourage so-called patent trolls from making bad-faith demands while still allowing small businesses to assert their patent rights.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

FTA Rule Boosts States' Rail Transit Safety Oversight

The Federal Transit Administration issued a final rule Monday giving states more oversight

Deloitte Touche
Delphi Automotive PLC
Delta Air Lines Inc.
Facebook
Federation Internationale de Football Association
Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV
Florida Bankers Association Inc.
Florida Bar Association
Friedman LLP
General Motors
Google Inc.
Grocery Manufacturers Association
Hospira Inc.
Hulu LLC
Immigration Reform Law Institute
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
JetBlue Airways Corporation
Lyft Inc.
McDonald's Corporation
NBCUniversal Inc.
National Rifle Association of America
Natural Resources Defense Council
Netflix Inc.
New York State Bar Association
Pennsylvania Bar Association
PhRMA
Public Knowledge
Silver Airways Corp.
Sprint Nextel Corporation
Starbucks Corporation
Temple University
The Medicines Company
Twitter Inc.
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

authority to keep their rail transit systems running safely, following through on a congressional mandate to shore up what had been patchwork safety practices in rail transit nationwide.

Cuban Travel, Banking Rules Eased Before Obama's Visit

The U.S. eased travel restrictions to Cuba and expanded Cuban nationals' access to U.S. financial institutions and American currency on Tuesday, ahead of President Barack Obama's upcoming historic visit to the island.

Google, GM Push Lawmakers To Clarify Self-Driving Car Regs

Technology and automotive giants such as General Motors and Google urged Congress on Tuesday to ease some of the regulatory roadblocks impeding the rollout of self-driving or driverless cars, saying a patchwork of state-level safety regulations will stymie U.S. advancements in the technology.

INSURANCE

Sens. Say HHS Ignored ACA Co-Op Program Red Flags

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services knew that the Affordable Care Act's co-op program was providing billions of dollars to financially weak insurers but continued to approve loans and failed to enhance oversight, according to a U.S. Senate subcommittee majority report.

EMPLOYMENT

DOL Sends Controversial OT Rule To OMB For Quick Rollout

The U.S. Department of Labor on Tuesday sent its hot-button final rule expanding overtime eligibility for millions of workers to the White House's Office of Management and Budget,

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Bureau of Industry and Security
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Department of Agriculture

Department of Health and Human Services

Department of Homeland Security

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of Labor

Environmental Protection Agency

European Commission

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Federal Communications Commission

Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

Federal Judicial Center

Federal Reserve System

Federal Trade Commission

Federal Transit Administration

Food and Drug Administration

Habematolet Pomo of Upper Lake

Internal Revenue Service

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

National Security Council

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Office of Foreign Assets Control

Office of Management and Budget

marking the final step before the rule becomes official in the next few months.

Eakin Resignation May Help Pa. High Court's Battered Image

While Justice J. Michael Eakin's sudden resignation on Tuesday in the wake of ethics charges continues an unprecedented wave of scandal-driven personnel changes on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court dating back to May 2013, experts say it may help the institution find calmer waters.

Teamsters Win Access To WVU Right-To-Work Emails

A West Virginia state judge on Tuesday ordered West Virginia University to hand over unredacted emails detailing the economic impact of right-to-work legislation to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, siding with the union in its Freedom of Information Act suit.

COMPETITION

Ex-NJ Political Boss Denied Bail Pending Racketeering Appeal

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Securities and Exchange Commission

Seminole Tribe of Florida

U.S. Department of Defense

U.S. Department of Justice

U.S. Department of Transportation

U.S. Department of the Treasury

U.S. House of Representatives

U.S. Navy

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Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:03 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Dems Demand SEC Nominees' Views On Spending Disclosure



Wednesday, March 16, 2016



TOP NEWS

Dems Demand SEC Nominees' Views On Spending Disclosure

A Senate confirmation hearing on Tuesday for two prospective members of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission turned feisty when top Democrats threatened to withhold their votes on the nominees if they don't make clear their stance on whether the agency should pass a rule requiring political spending disclosures by public companies.

CDC Proposes Limits For Opioid Painkillers

Reacting to a dramatic increase in overdose deaths from opioids, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released new guidelines Tuesday asking providers to think twice before giving patients opioid painkillers.

Obama Removes Atlantic From Offshore Drilling Plan

The Obama administration on Tuesday put the Atlantic Ocean off limits in its proposed five-year offshore drilling plan, an about-face that's a victory for environmentalists, East Coast communities and lawmakers that opposed the plan and a defeat for the U.S. oil industry.

House Committee Skewers Ex-EPA Official Over Flint Crisis

The former U.S. Environmental Protection Agency official responsible for handling the Flint, Michigan, lead drinking water crisis faced withering criticism from the a U.S. House of Representatives committee on Tuesday, but defended the EPA's performance, saying she believes no one "did anything wrong."

Obama Nominates Ex-Jones Day Atty For 3rd Circ.

President Barack Obama on Tuesday nominated an assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania and former Jones Day attorney to serve on the Third Circuit, U.S. Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., confirmed.

FCC Chair Defends \$368M Budget Request To Congress

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Tom Wheeler defended the agency's \$368 million budget request for fiscal year 2017 Tuesday from criticism by a House Appropriations subcommittee chair and fellow commissioner Ajit Pai, who pushed for restraint in the industry fee-funded budget.

BANKING & SECURITIES

LAW FIRMS

Akin Gump
Arnold & Porter
Baker & McKenzie
Blank Rome
Boies Schiller
Caplin & Drysdale
Chiesa Shahnian
Covington & Burling
Cozen O'Connor
Cravath Swaine
Dechert
Dentons
Diaz Reus
Drinker Biddle
Feldman Gale
Fitzpatrick Cella
Fried Frank
Frommer Lawrence
Gibson Dunn
Goodwin Procter
GrayRobinson
Holland & Knight
Husch Blackwell
Jenner & Block
Jones Day
Kasowitz Benson
Kramer Levin
Latham & Watkins
Ludwig & Robinson
McGuireWoods
Miller Starr

Dodd-Frank Regs Should Spare Well-Capitalized Banks: Rep.

A top House Republican lawmaker on Tuesday outlined an alternative to the financial regulatory system set up by the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act that includes an option for banks to raise their capital levels in order to escape the financial reform law's rules.

FDIC Watchdog Rips Efforts To Halt Banks' Tax-Refund Loans

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.'s internal watchdog on Tuesday blasted the "aggressive and unprecedented efforts" to use the agency's power to force banks to stop offering a certain type of loan tied to income tax return filings, saying the agency must work to avoid similar issues in the future.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL

House Votes To Ease EPA Rules For Coal Refuse Power Plants

The U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday passed a bill to loosen certain U.S. Environmental Protection Agency air pollution rules for power plants that burn so-called coal refuse, over vehement opposition from House Democrats and the White House.

HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES

Hospira Urges Fed. Circ. To Keep On-Sale Bar For Patents

Hospira Inc. on Monday protested calls for the Federal Circuit to limit the on-sale bar to patenting inventions to public sales or exclude confidential sales, arguing inventors could game the system to extend the term of their patents.

IP & TECHNOLOGY

Fla. Anti-Patent Troll Law Scaled Back To Protect IP Rights

Florida Gov. Rick Scott is poised to sign a revision to the state's one-year-old anti-patent troll law that patent attorneys say narrows the scope of the original legislation, which is intended to discourage so-called patent trolls from making bad-faith demands while still allowing small businesses to assert their patent rights.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

FTA Rule Boosts States' Rail Transit Safety Oversight

The Federal Transit Administration issued a final rule Monday giving states more oversight authority to keep their rail transit systems running safely, following through on a congressional mandate to shore up what had been patchwork safety practices in rail transit nationwide.

Cuban Travel, Banking Rules Eased Before Obama's Visit

The U.S. eased travel restrictions to Cuba and expanded Cuban nationals' access to U.S. financial institutions and American currency on Tuesday, ahead of President Barack Obama's upcoming historic visit to the island.

Google, GM Push Lawmakers To Clarify Self-Driving Car Regs

Technology and automotive giants such as General Motors and Google urged Congress on Tuesday to ease some of the regulatory roadblocks impeding the

Morrison & Foerster

Motley Rice

Orrick Herrington

Paul Hastings

Pillsbury Winthrop

Proskauer Rose

Reed Smith

Scarinci Hollenbeck

Schiff Hardin

Schnader Harrison

Seyfarth Shaw

Spector Gadon

Spiegel & McDiarmid

Stevens & Lee

Wilson Sonsini

Winston & Strawn

COMPANIES

AT&T Inc.

AbbVie Inc.

Altman Weil Inc.

America's Health Insurance Plans

American Airlines Group Inc.

American Bankers Association

American Bar Association

American Cable Association

American Medical Association Inc.

American Petroleum Institute Inc.

Apple Inc.

Arch Coal Inc.

BP p.l.c.

Center for Strategic and
International Studies

Comcast Corporation

Deloitte Touche

Delphi Automotive PLC

Delta Air Lines Inc.

Facebook

Federation Internationale de
Football Association

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV

Florida Bankers Association Inc.

Florida Bar Association

Friedman LLP

General Motors

Google Inc.

rollout of self-driving or driverless cars, saying a patchwork of state-level safety regulations will stymie U.S. advancements in the technology.

INSURANCE

Sens. Say HHS Ignored ACA Co-Op Program Red Flags

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services knew that the Affordable Care Act's co-op program was providing billions of dollars to financially weak insurers but continued to approve loans and failed to enhance oversight, according to a U.S. Senate subcommittee majority report.

EMPLOYMENT

DOL Sends Controversial OT Rule To OMB For Quick Rollout

The U.S. Department of Labor on Tuesday sent its hot-button final rule expanding overtime eligibility for millions of workers to the White House's Office of Management and Budget, marking the final step before the rule becomes official in the next few months.

Eakin Resignation May Help Pa. High Court's Battered Image

While Justice J. Michael Eakin's sudden resignation on Tuesday in the wake of ethics charges continues an unprecedented wave of scandal-driven personnel changes on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court dating back to May 2013, experts say it may help the institution find calmer waters.

Teamsters Win Access To WVU Right-To-Work Emails

A West Virginia state judge on Tuesday ordered West Virginia University to hand over unredacted emails detailing the economic impact of right-to-work legislation to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, siding with the union in its Freedom of Information Act suit.

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Hulu LLC

Immigration Reform Law Institute

International Brotherhood of Teamsters

JetBlue Airways Corporation

Lyft Inc.

McDonald's Corporation

NBCUniversal Inc.

National Rifle Association of America

Natural Resources Defense Council

Netflix Inc.

New York State Bar Association

Pennsylvania Bar Association

PhRMA

Public Knowledge

Silver Airways Corp.

Sprint Nextel Corporation

Starbucks Corporation

Temple University

The Medicines Company

Twitter Inc.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

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Bureau of Industry and Security
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

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Federal Reserve System
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Federal Transit Administration
Food and Drug Administration
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Internal Revenue Service
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
National Security Council
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Office of Management and Budget
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From: Sally Schramm <sschramm@ashbrook.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 11:59 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Your Invitation to Ashbrook Planning for Life Workshop



The Ashbrook Center presents
..... Planning for Life Workshop
Monday, March 21, 2016 • 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Heritage Room at Ashland University • John C. Myers Convocation Center
401 College Ave. Ashland, OH 44805

Presenter Randy Fairfax

Randy is the Private Wealth practice leader with Highland Consulting Associates, Inc. where he provides his clients and families with expert financial advice, business consulting, and wealth management experience. He has helped create over \$1 billion of additional resources for both families and charities, while enhancing the preservation of family businesses, family wealth and family relationships.



Topics Include:

- 10 most common planning mistakes
- How to leave a legacy that reflects your core values
- Understanding why you plan
- Answers about Wills, Probate, Trusts, Titling, and Estate Taxes
- The misconception of wealth distribution
- And more!

“In over 25 years of working with families, it has been a privilege to help them understand the choices they have and the steps they can take to better steward their resources. In doing this, families are better able to enhance relationships and pass on their values while retaining more control and enjoying and retaining more of what they own.”

— Randy Fairfax

Lunch & Learn

Your complimentary lunch includes a special discussion with Professor Chris Burkett on the first American to plan for future generations: Benjamin Franklin.

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From: Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team

Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 5:07 PM

To: Rep88

Subject: The Leaflet - Right-to-Work Momentum Continues



Right-to-Work Momentum Continues

Earlier in March, West Virginia became the 26th state to enact right-to-work (RTW) legislation. RTW laws allow private sector employees to opt out of union membership. RTW laws have been around since the late 1940s, but interest in RTW legislation has been particularly high over the past four years in many union-dominated states, such as Michigan, Wisconsin, and West Virginia - all of which recently adopted right-to-work laws.

RTW opponents say right-to-work laws lower private sector wages, but research shows this claim isn't true. James Sherk, a research fellow of labor economics at The Heritage Foundation wrote in a 2015 *Background*, "[W]hen living costs are fully taken into account, private-sector workers in RTW states enjoy real wages equivalent to those in non-RTW states. Policymakers considering RTW legislation may do so confident that it will have no negative impact on private-sector wages. RTW laws do appear to slightly reduce the pay of government employees, easing constraints on hard-pressed state budgets."

On March 8, Jesse Hathaway, managing editor of *Budget & Tax News*, testified before the Maryland House Economic Matters Committee, where he explained the positive effects RTW laws have on economic growth: "Right-to-work laws create new jobs and foster economic and population growth. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, between 2002 and 2012, the economies of right-to-work states grew by 62 percent, which far outpaces the 46.5 percent growth in non-right-to-work states. Maryland should strongly consider implementing right-to-work legislation and reaping the economic benefits it will provide."

In a recent *Heartlander* article, Jim Shaffer, president of the Public Policy Foundation of West Virginia, was quoted in support of RTW laws, which he says provide workers with economic freedoms that have many benefits: "Economic freedom [is] the ability to participate [in and the ability to negotiate with] the exchange of goods and services between consenting transparent individuals, unencumbered by the auspices of government ... this is the very essence of a free market. By being forced to join a union as a condition of employment, individuals give up their right to free association [and are] forced to acquiesce to the agenda of a group that does not respect the right to voluntarily organize as a personal choice."

Right-to-work laws provide liberty to workers, create new jobs, and foster economic and population growth. As additional state legislators and officials learn about the important

advantages RTW laws provide states that choose to enact them, more states will implement right-to-work reform, providing additional freedoms and prosperity to millions of Americans.



Budget & Tax

Research & Commentary: Maryland Corporate Income Tax Reform

Research shows high corporate income taxes are a deterrent to economic development, discouraging new businesses and high-income earners from moving into a market and incentivizing current businesses to leave. To address these problems, legislators in Maryland are now considering a significant cut in the state's corporate income tax, along with changes that would streamline the tax.

In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans argues, "The proposed corporate income tax cuts would be a step in the right direction, but lawmakers should go even further. Lowering income taxes dramatically improves a state's economy and generates new jobs." [Read more](#)

Constitutional Reform

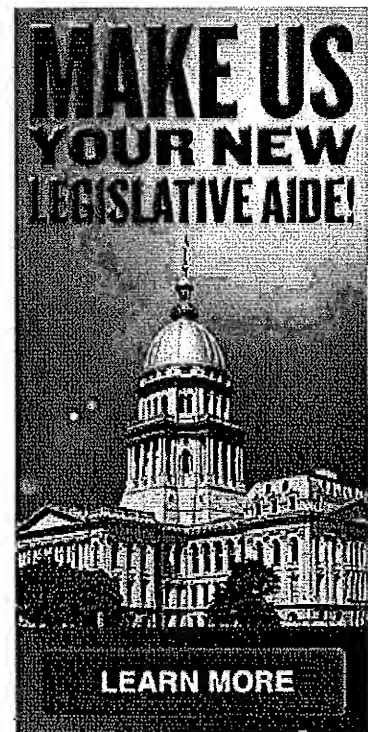
Heartland Daily Podcast - Kyle Maichle: Free Speech on College Campuses

In this edition of *The Heartland Daily Podcast*, Kyle Maichle, project manager for constitutional reform, joins HDP host Donald Kendal to discuss free-speech issues on college campuses. From free-speech codes to "safe spaces," the rights of students and staff members at college campuses around the country are being hotly debated and have gained national media attention. In this interview, Maichle gives listeners some background information on the growing threats to free speech on college campuses and discusses a new report from the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, which ranks colleges based on their free-speech restrictions. [Listen here](#)

Education

Research & Commentary: Alabama Education Savings Accounts

On March 9, the Alabama House Education Policy Committee passed a bill that would establish an education savings account (ESA) program for children with special needs, children of active-duty Armed Forces members, children of those killed in combat, and foster children who have been adopted or have legal guardians. Under the proposed legislation, parents of these students would be able to use designated funds to attend a private school or to help pay for other education options that better suit their children's needs. The proposal would limit



The March issue of *Budget & Tax News* reports Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's support for

new participants in the program to 1,000 each year. Just over 82,000 Alabama special-needs students qualified for an ESA in 2014, according to the Alabama Department of Education (ADE). Under the new proposal, each student would receive 90 percent of allocated per-student public funds; the student's local school district would receive the other 10 percent.

In this *Research & Commentary*, Policy Analyst Tim Benson explains to readers although the plan is a step in the right direction, much more should be done: "While providing ESAs for students with special needs would be a great step forward for Alabama, the passage of a universal ESA bill would be ideal and go a long way toward remedying the state's dismal record of failing to educate its children." [Read more](#)

Energy & Environment

Research & Commentary: A Summary of the Impacts of Industrial Silica Sand (Frac Sand) Mining

Isaac Orr, research fellow at The Heartland Institute, and Mark Krumenacher, senior principal and senior vice president of GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc., have written a series of four *Policy Studies* investigating the economic, environmental, social, and roadway impacts of industrial silica sand mining, also known as "frac sand" mining. These studies are intended to help local policymakers and the general public better understand the potential impacts, both positive and negative, of industrial sand operations on their communities. This mining, the authors conclude, "is an indispensable part of life. It is not a threat to tourism, scenic beauty, or property values." While citizens will have their concerns about the silica sand mining process, "The way to address emotional reactions is to acknowledge them, understand them, and respond to them with scientific evidence and real-world data. ... The [silica-sand mining] process has become a significant driver of economic growth in the Upper Midwest and, if done in a [safe and] environmentally responsible manner, it will be an important source employment and earnings for decades to come." [Read more](#)

Health Care

Research & Commentary: Health Care Price Transparency

Access to transparent health care prices remains elusive for most U.S. health care consumers, who are often insulated from price considerations by the standard third-party payment systems commonly used for medical billing. This leaves patients unaware of the cost of the treatments they receive. Patients are not given an incentive to shop around; they pay the same copay regardless of the services they choose and are not penalized for ineffective choices. Extra costs are passed on to the insurer, and premium prices increase as a result.

convening a convention of the states to consider and draft a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced national budget.

Environment & Climate News

Health Care News

School Reform News

Several states are now considering health care price transparency legislation that would give patients greater access to price information. In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans examines price transparency laws and concludes they help to promote competition and helps to enhance product quality: "State legislators should work to promote health care price transparency in their states to help empower consumers and lower health care costs." [Read more](#)

From Our Free-Market Friends

The Heritage Foundation Releases the 2016 Index of Economic Freedom

For over two decades, the *Index of Economic Freedom* (IEF) has measured the impact of liberty and free markets around the globe, and the 2016 IEF confirms the formidable positive relationship between economic freedom and progress. IEF covers 10 freedoms - from property rights to entrepreneurship - in 186 countries. Economic freedom is measured using 10 quantitative and qualitative factors, grouped into four broad categories, including, rule of law (property rights, freedom from corruption); limited government (fiscal freedom, government spending); regulatory efficiency (business freedom, labor freedom, monetary freedom); and open markets (trade freedom, investment freedom, financial freedom). [Read more](#)

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160321dayplan.htm



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Ohio Report for Monday, March 21, 2016

Energy Companies Remain Hopeful For March Ruling On PPAs

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Capitol Scene: Former Dispatch Editor Marrison Joins Yost Team

Attorney General's Opinion

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

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Volume #85, Report #54 -- Monday, March 21, 2016

Energy Companies Remain Hopeful For March Ruling On PPAs

For more than a year and a half, AEP and FirstEnergy have waited for the Public Utilities Commission's orders on their controversial Power Purchase Agreements - decisions that have been expected to be made in the first quarter of 2016.

But with just one more meeting of the PUCO scheduled for this month, it's possible the wait for one or both decisions could stretch into the second quarter.

The PUCO is scheduled to meet just once more this month - a March 30 meeting for which the agenda has not yet been finalized. The commission will not meet March 23.

Whether the agenda will include one or both cases hasn't yet been determined, but PUCO spokesman Matt Schilling said any belief the ruling will come in the first quarter has been conjecture.

"For what it's worth the commission's never indicated when a decision may be," Mr. Schilling said. "There is lots of speculation out there, but we don't know."

The companies involved and their opponents have been anticipating first quarter orders. Should a decision not come in two weeks' time, the cases a year and a half or more in the making would be poised to continue.

The utilities are hopeful a decision arrives sooner, rather than later. In FirstEnergy's case, for example, the company has two energy auctions scheduled in April under the Electric Security Plan scheduled to begin June 1.

"So we're very hopeful we can get an order in this case so we can proceed with these auctions," spokesman Doug Colafella said. "Because as of June 1, we don't have power supply purchased for our customers."

"I think everyone is hopeful a decision may come as of next meeting. But obviously it's up to commission to put it on the agenda."

AEP spokeswoman Tammy Ridout said the company is "hopeful the commission will issue an order quickly."

"They have all the evidence in hand and we think they should approve the settlement agreement we've proposed," she said. "It's been a long process and we're ready for it to move forward,"

Potentially complicating matters is the ongoing complaints against both PPAs before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The Ohio Consumers' Counsel in February urged the PUCO to delay ruling until the FERC cases are settled. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 17, 2016)

In their latest filing, the Electric Power Supply Association argued that the companies have failed to rebut the concerns raised in the complaints and FERC "should issue an order as soon as possible granting the complaints."

The group cites opposition from PJM, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, the Northwest Ohio Aggregation Council and others as showing the merits of its case.

"It is rare to see these parties and suppliers in complete agreement on wholesale market issues, and that they are should be a clear sign that, to paraphrase Shakespeare, something is rotten in the state of Ohio," the group wrote.

In their testimony, AEP and FirstEnergy both argue FERC has no jurisdiction in the matter and that the complaints are baseless because the allegations of consumer harm are "misplaced." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 24, 2016)

Controlling Board Approves Funding For Elections Training, Teacher Certification, Licensure

Controlling Board members approved \$92,500 in funding for the Secretary of State's office to hold elections training in Cleveland, though one lawmaker questioned why the event wasn't slated for Columbus.

The training event has recently been held either in Columbus as a two-day event or at five locations around the state as one-day events. Rep. Hearcel Craig (D-Columbus) asked if having the event in Cleveland could affect turnout for people in distant parts of the state. If turnout is low, he said, it could mean the office would have to come back before the board for more money.

Veronica Sherman, chief financial officer for the secretary of state's office, said she didn't expect to need more money.

"I think the cost that we have laid out here is the high end of the parameter and we would not expect to have to come back for more money," she said.

The office wanted to have only one event because it allows for more intensive training, she said.

Sen. Tom Sawyer (D-Akron) questioned part of a request from the Department of Education for \$3.2 million over two years for teacher certification and licensure, which includes the Office of Professional Conduct. The proposal cited an increase in the number of open cases, partially because of high-profile data manipulation scandals.

Sen. Sawyer asked if the department was targeting any particular types of schools or other programs in investigating data manipulation. Aaron Rausch, the department's director of budget and school funding, said they focused on individuals, not broad types of school districts.

"We appreciate that you don't want to go out on a witch hunt, but having said that, knowing that you're well targeted gives us more comfort," Sen. Sawyer said.

Mr. Rausch said the data manipulation cases are part of the increased load at the Office of Professional Conduct, but are not the only reason for the increase. Other things that have increased the caseload include a program that tracks the backgrounds of teachers and employees after they have been hired, finding any new hits to their record while they are working.

"Just in general there has been an increase in the caseload of the Office of Professional Conduct," he said.

The Controlling Board also approved a new contract the Department of Administrative Services reached with the Fraternal Order of Police Ohio Labor Council. The contract covers more than 500 employees statewide in eight state agencies, said Kristen Rankin, interim deputy director for the Office of Collective Bargaining.

The contract runs through June 30, 2018, and is similar to past contracts, though changes include switching from an annual clothing allowance to reimbursement and modifying the drug-free workplace policy to prohibit employees from working if they have blood alcohol contents above 0.02.

A request for \$1.45 million from the Development Services Agency for programs aimed at revitalizing distressed communities was deferred at the agency's request.

Other items approved by the board included requests for (Agenda):

- \$4.4 million from the Court of Claims for the payment of a wrongful imprisonment settlement for Kwame Ajamu, formerly Ronnie Bridgeman, and Wiley Bridgeman.
- \$615,852 from the Department of Natural Resources for geological mapping.
- \$1.9 million from the Ohio State University for a higher education system maintenance and upgrade project. The system manages data on student enrollment, courses, financial aid and more.
- \$3.1 million from OSU for roof and electrical repairs for three buildings on the Marion campus.
- \$4 million from the Development Services Agency for affordable housing assistance grants.

- \$1.9 million from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for a number of projects to clean up polluted sites.

Riedel Plans To Pursue Right To Work, Push For Economic Development After Toppling Incumbent

Although he was an outsider in a primary race against an incumbent, businessman Craig Riedel has had no shortage of attention from Columbus since winning his bid to head to the statehouse in January.

The Defiance Republican edged out Rep. Tony Burkley (R-Paulding) in last week's primary to represent Defiance, Paulding, Van Wert and part of Auglaize counties.

Lacking a Democrat competitor in the November election, Mr. Riedel, 49, will be headed to the Statehouse next year. After a brief hiatus from campaigning, he said he'll begin crafting his agenda by meeting with fellow lawmakers who've already begun courting him.



Craig Riedel

"I'm in a major learning curve right now. I'm going to take the summer to meet with those other representatives who've reached out to me that want to talk to me and let me know what I might expect as to how things operate," said the newcomer, who had never run for a political office before retiring from a management position at Nucor Corporation in July to pursue the House seat.

Mr. Riedel said he'll also be familiarizing himself with the capital city, having only spent a brief amount of time at the Statehouse during the last General Assembly.

Ironically, that visit was a "shadowing" of Rep. Burkley while the incumbent performed his state rep duties. Unbeknownst to his host, Mr. Riedel would soon be angling for his job.

Mr. Riedel said he asked Mr. Burkley for the opportunity because he wanted to learn more about the legislature.

When the House GOP first threw its financial support behind Rep. Burkley, Mr. Riedel said he was confused because no one in the party had gotten to know him. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 4, 2016)

It's customary for both parties to protect their incumbents, especially in key elections where candidates have well-financed and organized campaigns like that of Mr. Riedel. However, the winner of Tuesday's election said he was able to pull off a victory despite the powers-that-be because voters trust him.

"I think the people we met, they saw the sincerity in my words and my life and they had the confidence in me that I was going to go to Columbus and truly represent them and that I would not be afraid to be criticized or that I wouldn't be afraid to go against the line when I felt it was necessary," he said.

At the risk of upsetting the party, Mr. Riedel said that while he's planning to vote mostly with his peers, he won't be afraid to lead on conservative issues that haven't yet been tackled, such as making Ohio a so-called "right to work" state.

Working with Nucor Corporation for 27 years, he said he saw a number of businesses choose to settle in neighboring states such as Indiana or Michigan because workers in those states are not required to join unions.

"I understand why unions may be necessary but what I believe is an individual should have a right to choose whether or not they want to belong to a union or not," he said. "I think it's wrong that you're required in Ohio to join a union if there is a union in your facility. You should have that freedom of choice."

Working in private business his entire career, Mr. Riedel said he understands how important teamwork is to being successful, however sticking to one's principals is just as important.

"I'm always going to be very respectful and of the Republican Party and I'm very conservative, but I'm always going to do what I think is right and there are going to be times when that goes divergent from what the Republicans would like me to do," he said.

"My bosses are my God and the constituents of the 82nd House District. That's who I'm going to answer to. I'm always going to do what I believe is the right thing to do," Mr. Riedel continued.

Having already knocked on the doors of 4,400 constituents with his wife, Danette, leading up to the election, he said he'll continue meeting with people in his district and find out what issues they care most about.

Another priority will be meeting with business and civic groups to determine the best way to meet his goals of reducing taxes and business regulations as well as spurring economic development, Mr. Riedel said.

Kasich Lags In Money Race, Walks Back Statement On Garland, Announces Arizona Leadership Team And Campaign Stops...

Gov. John Kasich trails competitors Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and billionaire Donald Trump in the race to secure enough delegates to secure the Republican Party's nomination for president.

He also trails in the money race.

Gov. Kasich reported \$1.25 million on hand at the beginning of March, according to his latest campaign finance report filed with the Federal Election Commission. In February, he raised \$3.4 million and spent \$3.6 million.

Sen. Cruz began the month of March with \$8 million on hand. He raised \$11.8 million and spent \$17.5 million in February.

Mr. Trump had \$1.6 million on hand at the beginning of March. He raised just \$2 million in February, but loaned his campaign nearly \$7 million during the month, bring the total to \$24.3 million since entering the campaign. He spent \$9.5 million in February.

Garland: Over the weekend, the governor was forced to walk back a comment he made about President Barack Obama's pick to fill the seat of former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.

During a taped interview for CBS' "Face the Nation," Gov. Kasich suggested he would consider nominating Merrick Garland to a seat on the bench.

He later said that statement was made "in an effort to be polite."

"Look, you know, Garland's - I'm going have my own picks for Supreme Court," he said. "You know, the fact is, I said that they ought to meet him and talk to him, and I'm not going to pick somebody who's, you know, obviously not a respecter of the Second Amendment. I don't want people making law and so nobody should be confused, worked up or upset. He's not going to be my pick for the Supreme Court."

Also, during a taped interview on NBC's "Meet the Press," Gov. Kasich ruled out the possibility of being the running mate of either Sen. Cruz or Mr. Trump.

Leadership Team: Ahead of Tuesday's primary contest in Arizona, Gov. Kasich announced his leadership team there that includes two state lawmakers, two former chiefs of staff to governors, a disability rights advocate and several activists.

"We have a great team in Arizona," Gov. Kasich said. "I am very appreciative of their help to share our positive message to strengthen our country and bring real solutions to the America people."

Campaign Stops: Gov. Kasich on Monday was one of four presidential candidates scheduled to address the American Israel Public Affairs Committee Policy Conference.

In his speech to AIPAC, Gov. Kasich made a pitch based on experience, according to *Politico*.

On Wednesday, he is scheduled to hold a town hall event in Wisconsin, where he picked up the endorsement of former Treasurer Jack Voight.

Draft Kasich Movement: According to *New York Times Magazine* writer Robert Draper, the GOP establishment is not rushing to get on board the bandwagon for Gov. Kasich to secure the party's nomination in a brokered process.

According to Mr. Draper, party insiders are rejecting the movement because of his poor showing in most states, along with his support for Medicaid expansion and embrace of Common Core, despite helping to balance the budget as chairman of the House Budget Committee.

"But there's a third layer of resistance to Kasich, one with which Cruz can identify: Many Beltway Republicans don't like him," he writes.

"No doubt Chairman Kasich's strict budgets made life unpleasant for a few lobbyists. But so did his demeanor - which, D.C. veterans say, was often sanctimonious and rude," he continued.

Campaign Continues: Despite needing more than 100 percent of remaining elected delegates to secure the party's nomination, Gov. Kasich on Monday again reiterated that he has no plans to get out of the race.

Speaking on CNN's "New Day" on Monday morning, the governor said a brokered convention will be "an extension of this primary process."

"If I'm the only one that can beat Hillary in the fall, why would anybody say I should leave? I mean that's just -- that's nuts," he said.

Agency Briefs: AG Rejects Another Pot Petition; Review Of EPA Rules Delayed; Painesville Man Busted For Workers' Comp Fraud; Ballot Board To Meet; Sebring Gets Funds

Attorney General Mike DeWine on Monday rejected petition language for a ballot measure to make medicinal marijuana legal in Ohio.

The petition, Medicinal Cannabis and Industrial Hemp Amendment, was submitted by Grassroots OH with more than 2,000 signatures.

However, Mr. DeWine found two defects in the summary language, including the lack of references to proposed amendment language that "industrial hemp and medicinal cannabis shall be researched, regulated, and promoted by the state in a manner substantially similar to other agricultural crops" and another section that states 21-year-olds have "equal opportunity to access, ownership, and employment."

On Friday, Mr. DeWine rejected petition language filed by Ohio Medical Cannabis Care LLC based on 11 defects. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 18, 2016)

Since 2011, Mr. DeWine has rejected petition language for 13 measures dealing with marijuana.

A decision on the proposed language of another medical marijuana ballot measure is scheduled to be released Friday.

JCARR: Amid concerns raised by some municipalities, the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review put off a hearing on Ohio EPA rules that came out of legislation (SB 1) designed to deal with toxic algal bloom in Lake Erie.

The regulations include monitoring and reporting of harmful algal blooms in public water systems.

"We just felt there had to be a few more questions asked," Chairman Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) said following the meeting.

According to Sen. Uecker, the rules are expected to be back on the agenda for review at the April 4 meeting.

Bureau of Workers' Compensation: A Lake County man was convicted of workers' compensation fraud after the agency's Special Investigations Department captured video of him working as a handyman.

Mark Walker, who was receiving temporary total disability, was ordered to repay nearly \$75,000 in benefits he collected over a five-year period. He was also sentenced to 12 to 18 months incarceration, which was suspended for three years of community control.

"The purpose of temporary total disability is to give injured workers time to recuperate, and work activity during that recovery period is prohibited," BWC Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer said. "Mr. Walker deceptively returned to employment for several years and continued to collect thousands of dollars from BWC."

Secretary of State: The Ballot Board is scheduled to meet Wednesday and will take up two ballot measures, one a proposed initiative designed to boost the clean energy industry and the other a proposed constitutional amendment that would ban former lawmakers from lobbying for two years after leaving office, and cap most legislators' pay at the annual median household income in Ohio.

Sebring Water Grant: The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded the Village of Sebring a \$400,000 grant to assist with water quality improvements, a development welcomed by state and federal lawmakers.

"This grant will help provide much needed upgrades to Sebring's water system but the work is far from over," Senate Minority Leader Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) said in a statement. "We need to acknowledge that water quality issues will continue to plague our communities until our state makes an honest investment into fixing our crumbling underground water and sewer infrastructure."

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman stated, "I'm pleased that federal authorities are helping Sebring ensure its water supply is safe. As we move forward, I hope the Senate will act in a bipartisan way to help Ohio and other areas of the country who have similar needs. I will continue to work in a bipartisan manner to ensure that all Ohioans have access to clean and safe drinking water."

Lead-tainted water in the village and officials' slow reaction in alerting residents has led to fallout at the local level, where the Ohio EPA announced violations, and at the state level, where two agency employees were fired following a review of the circumstances. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 17, 2016)

At the federal level, both Mr. Portman and U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) have backed related legislation on clean water issues, which have come to the forefront in recent months due to lead tainted water in Flint, Mich., Sebring and elsewhere. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, February 3, 2016)

Politics Notebook: Ramos Looks To Add Early Voting Sites; Portman On Air With Web Ad, Defends Supreme Court Decision; Clyde Up For Award

One state lawmaker is advocating for an increased number of early voting sites.

Rep. Dan Ramos plans legislation that would allow counties to have one early voting location for every 60,000 residents. The additional early voting sites would require the approval of a county board of commissioners or, in case of Cuyahoga and Summit counties, the chartered governing body.

"With early voting for the primary recently concluding in Ohio, I believe it is time to examine and address an inequality in the system," he said. "With such variation in population, a 'one-size fits all' approach that limits the number of early voting centers does not adequately encourage public participation in the democratic process."

Under the proposal, 23 counties would be eligible to open at least one additional early voting center, according to Rep. Ramos.

"Voting is a right central to what makes us American, and this bill expands access to that right," Ramos said. "Allowing more early voting locations closer to home will benefit both

suburban and township voters outside of the city center, as well as lower income voters with limited transportation options."

Senate Race: The campaign of Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) is up with a web ad touting his work to help Hebron-based ArmorSource secure a federal contract.

According to the ad, the company has added 200 jobs since inking the deal.

In a Sunday op-ed for the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Sen. Portman defended his decision to join with fellow Senate Republicans in refusing to hold hearings on President Barack Obama's choice to fill the seat of former Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.

"I have concluded that the best thing for the country is to trust the American people to weigh in and to have the confirmation process take place in a less partisan atmosphere," he wrote. "Awaiting the result of a democratic election, rather than having a nomination fight in this contentious election-year environment, will give the nominee more legitimacy and, as then - Senator Biden pointed out, better preserve the institutional credibility of the Senate and the court."

The decision has earned praise from the Judicial Crisis Network, which is launching a \$2 million TV, radio and digital ad campaign in six states, including Ohio.

"The goal of this effort is to inform and alert the citizens of Ohio that in opposing President Obama's third liberal nominee to the Supreme Court, Senator Portman is also opposing liberal domination of the court and that, with the presidential election so close, he is right to allow the people of Ohio a voice in this lifetime appointment to the nation's highest court," Carrie Severino, chief counsel for JCN and a former U.S. Supreme Court clerk, said in a statement.

"As a federal judge, Garland has made rulings undermining the Second Amendment rights of Ohioans as well as defended expansive, unchecked power of federal agencies such as the EPA, decisions that harm Ohio small businesses," she continued.

The move has drawn criticism from Democrats, including Sen. Portman's general election opponent, former Gov. Ted Strickland. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 16, 2016)

Sen. Portman also announced on Monday the addition of Michawn Rich as his campaign's communications director.

"We are very excited to have Michawn Rich join us as we kick off the general election," campaign manager Corry Bliss said. "Michawn's discipline and experience in competitive races - including 2014's most competitive congressional race in the country - will be a great addition to our team. She is a seasoned communicator who will help us contrast Rob's vision for a brighter future with why Ohio can't go back to Ted Strickland's Ohio when the state lost over 350,000 jobs and ranked 48th in job creation."

Clyde Nominated For Award: Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) on Monday urged people to vote for Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent) to receive the Gabrielle Giffords Rising Star Award by EMILY's List.

"Kathleen is one of Ohio's biggest rising stars. She's an outspoken advocate for voting rights, and even in our state's conservative legislature, Kathleen has proven an effective fighter for Ohio's women and workers," he said.

Ms. Clyde also announced that she will make stops in Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati with author Ari Berman to discuss his new book, *Give Us the Ballot: The Modern Struggle for Voting Rights in America*.

Capitol Scene: Former Dispatch Editor Marrison Joins Yost Team

State Auditor Dave Yost said Monday he's hired Ben Marrison, the former *Columbus Dispatch* editor, as his communications director.

He replaces Carrie Bartunek, who was named senior policy adviser for public affairs.

"Ben's extensive media experience and management expertise will be a great addition to our office," Auditor Yost said in a statement. "He is a trusted name in Columbus and all over the state of Ohio, and we are fortunate to have him join our team."

Mr. Marrison, 52, previously worked for the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* and *Toledo Blade*. He starts his new post April 4 with an annual salary of \$105,000.

"The state auditor's office embodies those things that I always tried to do as a journalist: be transparent, provide public access and hold people accountable. I have a great deal of respect for the way Dave Yost has conducted himself as state auditor and as Delaware-County prosecutor. His decisions are rooted in doing the right things by taxpayers without regard to politics," Marrison said.

"The position of director of communications provides me the opportunity to continue my public service, to help citizens understand how their money is being spent, and to better understand government operations -- something I've been fascinated with since my earliest days as a reporter."

Mr. Marrison, a Pickerington resident, holds a journalism degree from Bowling Green State University.

Attorney General's Opinion

No. 2016-010. Requested by Paulding County Prosecuting Attorney Joseph R. Burkard.
SYLLABUS:

The judges of a court of common pleas, in the reasonable exercise of their discretion, may expend moneys generated by the court's special projects fee imposed pursuant to R.C. 2303.201(E)(1) to purchase incentives that reward a participant's compliance with the terms of the court's drug court program, provided the judges determine that the incentives contribute to the efficient operation of the court.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, March 23

Ballot Board, Senate Finance Haring Rm., Senate Bldg., Columbus, 2:30 p.m. (The board will meet to determine whether each of the proposed constitutional amendments known as the "Ohio Clean Energy Initiative" and the "Ohio Ethics First Amendment" contain only one proposed amendment.)

Thursday, March 24

BWC Nominating Council, Conf. Rms. B&C, 31st Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 1 p.m.

Thursday, April 7

Optical Dispensers Board, 31st Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Wednesday, April 6

Senate Republican candidate Frank Hoagland fundraiser, The Galley, 203 Second St., Marietta, 4:30 p.m., (Host - \$1,000; Sponsor - \$500; Individual - \$350 to Hoagland for Ohio)

Tuesday, April 12

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Legislative Reception, 52 East Gay St., Columbus, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 19

Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host - \$1,000; Sponsor - \$500; Individual - \$350 to The Committee to Elect Joe Uecker)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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House Activity for Monday, March 21, 2016

INTRODUCED

HB 492 ■ **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS** (Rogers, J., Driehaus, D.) To create the Supplemental State Capital Improvements Pilot Program funded by a temporary transfer from the Budget Stabilization Fund and to make an appropriation. Am. 131.43, 131.44, and 164.01 and to enact section 164.18.

HB 493 ■ **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING** (Sears, B., Ryan, S.) To make changes in the child abuse and neglect reporting law. Am. 307.627, 2151.421, 2151.422, 2151.99, 3701.701, 5153.16, 5153.175, and 5153.176.

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Senate Activity for Monday, March 21, 2016

INTRODUCED

SB 297 ■

STUDENT EXPULSIONS (Hughes, J.) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds. Am. 3313.66 and 3313.661 and to enact section 3313.668.

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Daily Activity Planner for Tuesday, March 22

Legislative Committees

~~Canceled: Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584),
Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.~~

~~Canceled: Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.~~

- If needed

Agency Calendar

Board of Building Appeals, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road,
Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 8 a.m.

Event Planner

Presidential primaries/caucuses in Arizona, Utah & Idaho (Democratic)

ACLU of Ohio and Ohio Justice and Policy Center news conference to release
criminal justice report, Judicial Room, Sheraton at Capitol Square, 75 E. State St.,
Columbus, 10 a.m.

Rep. Nickle Antonio (D-Lakewood) and Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Hts.) news
conference on bill to remove firearms in certain domestic violence situations,
Ladies Gallery, Statehouse, Columbus, 10:30 a.m.

Rep. Greta Johnson (D-Akron) and Sen. Capri Cafaro (D-Hubbard) news
conference on gender diversification legislation, Ladies Gallery, Statehouse,
Columbus, 2 p.m.

Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, Tally
Ho Room, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Event Host \$1,000; Event
Sponsor \$500; Individual Attendee \$350 to Troy Balderson for State Senator)

Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) fundraiser, Athletic Club, Gold Rm., 136 E. Broad
St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$1,000, \$500 or \$350 to Citizens for Hottinger)

Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Columbus) fundraiser, Athletic Club, Crystal Rm., 136 E.
Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$1,000, \$500 or \$350 to Citizens for Kevin Bacon)

Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) fundraiser, Claddaugh, 585 S. Front St.,
Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Host: \$1,000; Sponsor \$500; Individual attendee: \$350 to
Friends of Bill Coley)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

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From: Ashbrook Center
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 10:56 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Invitation to April 19th Ashbrook Luncheon



Join us for lunch and a

Major Issues Lecture

on Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Jason Riley, Manhattan Institute Senior Fellow

"The State Against Blacks"

12:00 p.m.

John C. Myers Convocation Center at Ashland University

Jason Riley is a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute and a columnist for the *Wall Street Journal*, where he worked for more than 20 years writing opinion pieces on politics, economics, education, immigration and race, among other subjects. He's also a commentator for Fox News, where he has appeared for more than a decade, and a frequent public speaker.

After joining the *Journal* in 1994, he was named a senior editorial page writer in 2000 and a member of the Editorial Board in 2005. In 2008 he published *Let Them In*, which argues for a more free-market oriented U.S. immigration policy. His second book, *Please Stop Helping Us*, which is about the track record of government efforts to help the black underclass, was published in 2014. He joined the Manhattan Institute in 2015.

Born in Buffalo, NY, Mr. Riley earned a bachelor's degree in English from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He has also worked for *USA Today* and the *Buffalo News*. He lives in suburban New York City with his wife and three children.

To order tickets or for more information, please visit our [website](#).

Please contact Jen Nixon with any questions at jnixon@ashbrook.org or 419-289-5411.

The Ashbrook Center seeks to restore and strengthen the capacities of the American people for constitutional self-government. Through undergraduate, graduate, and civic programs, the Ashbrook Center aspires to be the leading national educator in the enduring principles and practice of free government in the United States.

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[Ashbrook Center](#)
401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805

From: Ohio United Way
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 12:11 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: Last Chance to RSVP - 2016 Legislative Luncheon Invitation

Ohio
United Way

LIVE UNITED



GIVE

ADVOCATE

VOLUNTEER

Good afternoon. We want to reach out to all of you
who have not yet submitted your RSVP or regrets
for this year's Legislative Luncheon -
now less than 2 weeks away.

**Response has been great and so we have extended
the RSVP cut-off date until Friday, April 1.**
We hope to see you there!

You & your staff are cordially invited to attend

**Ohio United Way's
2016 Legislative Luncheon**

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

**The Ohio Statehouse Atrium
Columbus, Ohio**

This year's luncheon program will feature:

A Salute to Our Military Veterans

Connecting Our Veterans & Their Families To Services

Presentation of the Dr. Richard N. Aft – Live United Awards & United Way of the Year Award

**To reserve your seat, please submit your
R.S.V.P. by Friday, March 25
to Timothy Jadlot-Roe, Director, Public Policy at
troe@ouw.org or by calling (614) 224-8146.**

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AARP Ohio**

###

**If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Timothy Jadlot-Roe, Director,
Public Policy, at (614) 224-8146 or troe@ouw.org.**


Connect with us



Ohio United Way | 395 E. Broad St | Columbus | OH | 43215

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Try it FREE today.

From: Heartland Institute: The Government Relations Team
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2016 3:27 PM
To: Rep88
Subject: The Leaflet - Popularity of Short-Term Renting is Exploding

Popularity of Short-Term Renting is Exploding

In 2008 In a recent Mackinac Center for Public Policy [blog post](#), Policy Analyst Jarrett Skorup says the popularity of short-term rental services is “exploding”: “Short-term renting is exploding in popularity. People sign up through companies or websites - like Airbnb or HomeAway - to rent out an extra room or a house for a short period. If you live in a city that is going to host the Super Bowl and have extra space, renting out a room for two nights gets you extra money and saves the renter from higher-priced or less convenient lodging options.”

A [new study](#) by Andrew Moylan, executive director and senior fellow of the R Street Institute, assigns localities with letter grades for their regulatory structure related to short-term lodging services, such as Airbnb, HomeAway, and FlipKey. The report, titled “Roomscore 2016: Short-Term Rental Regulation in U.S. Cities,” grades 59 U.S. cities in five categories: whether a legal framework exists, the level of restrictions, taxation, licensing, and enforcement.

The study first examines cities’ legal frameworks, ranking cities highly for having a regulatory structure that explicitly acknowledges and creates a legal foundation for rentals conducted on a short-term basis. The cities that are ranked the highest in this category include: Anaheim, CA; Austin, Texas; Boulder, CO; Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Galveston, TX; Louisville, KY; Nashville, Tennessee; Philadelphia, PA; Portland, OR; Sacramento, CA; San Francisco, CA; San Jose, CA; and Savannah, Georgia.

While many of the aforementioned cities possess robust laws in place to support short-term rental services, many of the cities have a hostile city enforcement regime for short-term rental restrictions, such as burdensome inspection regimes, disproportionately high insurance requirements, restrictive occupancy limits, mandates to provide vehicle parking spaces, and prescriptive regulations of a host’s location. Some of the cities with the most unfriendly environments for short-term rentals include: Anaheim, CA; Atlanta, GA; Denver, CO; Ft. Lauderdale, FL; and Los Angeles, CA.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCOM) announced its support of short-term rentals [in a 2012 resolution](#), which stated the overall economic impact created by short-term rentals is positive. “Fair regulation of short-term rentals ensures greater compliance and greater receipt of local hotel taxes. Onerous regulations of short-term rentals can drive the industry underground, thus evading local regulations and local hotel taxes,” wrote USCOM.

Short-term rental services provide individuals, businesses, and consumers with economic opportunities. Lawmakers should support the rights of those who profit from the short-term rental industry, a decision that will encourage economic growth and free-market competition.



Budget & Tax

Research & Commentary: Do Right-to-Work Laws Cause Income Inequality?

One of the most commonly used attacks against right-to-work laws is the claim they increase economic inequality. In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans examines a new study by American Enterprise Institute researchers Jeffrey Jordan, Aparna Mathur, Abdul Manasib, and Devesh Roy showing this claim is likely untrue. "Inequality in the U.S. started to exacerbate in the mid-1980s," wrote the AEI researchers. "If RTW had an impact on inequality, it would have to be that RTW started to have a causal effect on inequality in the states that enacted the law in the 1940s and the 1950s with a lag of more than 30 years." [Read more](#)

Constitutional Reform

Introducing 'Article V 2.0': The Compact for a Balanced Budget

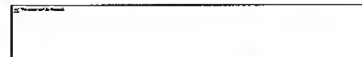
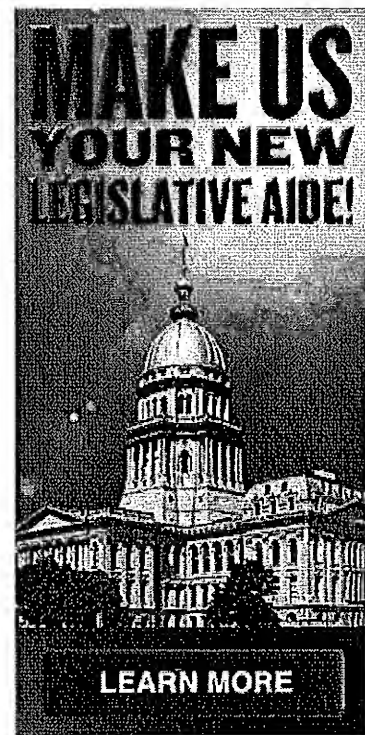
As the federal debt approaches \$18 trillion, a balanced budget amendment has emerged as one of few viable options for curbing government spending. The Article V process for amending the U.S. Constitution, however, is long and tedious.

In a new Heartland Institute report, titled "Introducing 'Article V 2.0': A Compact for a Balanced Budget," Nick Dranias, a constitutional law expert, asks the question, "[W]hat if the states could advance and ratify a powerful federal balanced budget amendment in just 12 months?" Dranias says the Compact for a Balanced Budget could accomplish that task, "changing the political game almost immediately." [Read more](#)

Education

Research & Commentary: Maryland Education Tax-Credit Scholarships

A new proposal being considered in Maryland would grant businesses tax credits in exchange for donations supporting nonprofit scholarship programs for students to attend a private school. If passed, the program would establish the \$15 million Maryland Education Tax Credit Reserve Fund, from which businesses would receive tax credits equal to 60 percent of those donations, not exceeding \$200,000 in a taxable year. In this *Research & Commentary*, Policy Analyst Tim Benson wrote,



The March issue

"These tax-credit scholarships would be administered by nonprofit Student Assistant Organizations (SAOs), which would work as middlemen that distribute contributions as scholarships for low-income students to attend private schools. Extracurricular programs at public schools would also be funded using SAOs." [Read more](#)

Energy & Environment

Study: Science Teachers Giving Unbalanced Education on Climate Change

H. Sterling Burnett, research fellow at The Heartland Institute, discusses a new nationwide survey of 1,500 U.S. middle and high school science teachers - conducted by the National Center for Science Education and published in the February 12 issue of *Science* - in this *Heartlander* report. The survey found half of the teachers who discuss climate change in the classroom ignore evidence showing natural forces play a significant role in climate change. The survey found approximately 70 percent of middle school and 87 percent of high school science teachers discuss global warming in the classroom, spending an average of less than two hours over the course of an entire academic year on the topic. More than half of the middle and high school science teachers discussing climate change teach humans' use of fossil fuels is mostly responsible for recent global climate changes. About 30 percent of science teachers discuss human actions and natural processes as potential causes of climate change, and 12 percent of science teachers addressing climate change do not emphasize possible human causes. [Read more](#)

Health Care

Research & Commentary: Colorado Should Reject Single-Payer Health Care

In November 2016, Colorado voters will consider a ballot measure that would enact a state constitutional amendment creating "ColoradoCare," a single-payer, government-run health care system in Colorado. Colorado would be the second state to attempt creating a single-payer health care system; the first was Vermont, which abandoned its plans in December 2014.

In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans examines ColoradoCare and the many problems the proposed single-payer system would create. "The Heartland Institute argues the best way to preserve individual freedom, improve the quality of health care, and enhance the efficiency of the nation's health care system is to empower individuals by giving them more control over the dollars spent on their behalf. Single-payer systems do the exact opposite. Colorado

of *Environment & Climate News* reports some 300 scientists, engineers, and economists sent a letter to U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith, chairman of the House Science Committee, warning data used by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to produce a 2015 report on climate change failed to comply with the Data Quality Act. "If NOAA had obeyed the law and carried out the required peer review of [the report], this whole affair could have been avoided. Hopefully NOAA will obey the law in the future," said William Happer, Ph.D., of Princeton University.

Budget & Tax News

Health Care News

School Reform News

should resist completing the transition to ColoradoCare and instead pursue policies emphasizing consumer-driven health care.” [Read more](#)

From Our Free-Market Friends

[A State-by-State Map of Worker Freedom](#)

The Center for Worker Freedom (CWF), a project of Americans for Tax Reform, provides a detailed look at labor laws related to public school teachers in its recently released “[2016 Indicator of Labor Liberty](#)” maps. The maps show how a ruling in favor of workers’ rights in *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association* would have benefited parts of the country still dominated by detrimental labor laws. The Supreme Court affirmed the decision made by a lower court on March 29 in a 4-4 split vote, ruling in favor of unions. CWF offers two versions of the map; one highlights the status quo of labor law across the country, and the other demonstrates how government workers in 21 states would have been freed from forced unionization if the Supreme Court had ruled mandatory dues unconstitutional. [Read more](#)

Heartland Institute

The Heartland Institute is a 30-year-old national non-profit organization dedicated to discovering, developing, and promoting free-market solutions to economic and social problems.

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Heartland Institute | 3939 North Wilke Road | Arlington Heights, IL 60004

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From: Roger Beckett
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2016 9:40 AM
To: Rep88
Subject: Your Invitation to the 31st Annual John M. Ashbrook Memorial Dinner



We cordially invite you to attend the

Thirty-First Annual

John M. Ashbrook

Memorial Dinner

featuring

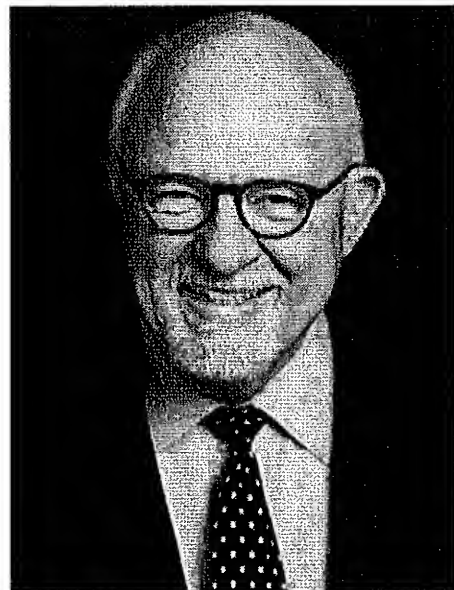
Ed Rollins

Wednesday, April 27

Myers Convocation Center, Ashland University

Doors Open: 5:30 pm

Dinner 6:30 pm



In this season of defining political campaigns, we are honored to host one of the nation's finest political consultants at the Ashbrook Memorial Dinner. In 1984, Ed Rollins ran Ronald Reagan's re-election campaign that won 49 of 50 states in the Electoral College.

Before and after the 1984 election, Mr. Rollins worked in the Reagan White House. He accompanied President Reagan to Ashland when he inaugurated the Ashbrook Center in 1983, and we are pleased to welcome him back.

We now have the pleasure of regularly seeing Mr. Rollins on television as a FoxNews Contributor.

This year's Memorial Dinner event will also feature additional speakers to discuss what we might expect to see at the upcoming Republican National Convention.

We hope you will join us for this special evening to support the students in our Ashbrook Scholar Program at Ashland University.

For tickets and table sponsorships, please visit our [website](#).

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[Ashbrook Center](#)
401 College Avenue, Ashland, OH 44805

From: Senator Seitz
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2016 9:58 AM
To: Amanda Connell
Subject: FW: ALEC- No time to Register? Let us help!
Attachments: ALEC 2016 Spring Task Force Summit Memo.docx

Please see attached memo regarding the 2016 ALEC Spring Task Force Summit and the accompanying email below.

From: Courtney Cook [mailto:CCook@alec.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 10:43 AM
To: Senator Seitz
Subject: ALEC- No time to Register? Let us help!



>> REGISTER NOW

No time to register online? Here at the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), we understand that your time is valuable and there are never enough hours in the day. We want to help!

**43rd
ALEC
Annual
Meeting**

**2016
JULY 27-29**

Save the date!

Registration for our

If you're planning to attend the **Spring Task Force Summit**, but haven't yet registered, just give us a call! We will take care of everything for you over the phone in under 5 minutes.

Register for the Summit in 3 easy steps:

- 1. Have your credit card on hand**
- 2. Call 571-482-5026 (No answer? We're probably helping someone on the other line. Leave a message and we will call you back.)**
- 3. Answer a few questions**

That's it! We will take care of the rest - including booking your hotel room and emailing you your confirmations.

Don't wait to call - Early Bird Rates end in 2 WEEKS!

Agenda News

Please be on the lookout for our 35-day mailer coming out this Friday, April 1. This will include the agenda for our Sub-Committees and Task Force meetings taking place at the **Spring Task Force Summit**.

Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, IN will open on April 4.

Questions?

Visit our website or contact our event staff

This message was sent to seitz@ohiosenate.gov from:

Courtney Cook | CCook@alec.org | ALEC | 2900 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor |
Arlington, VA 22202

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William J. Seitz

State Senator
Oversight and Reform,
8th District
Vice Chair

Ohio Senate
Columbus, Ohio 43215
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614-466-8068
Government
Subcommittee

Committees

Public Utilities, *Chair*
State Government

Civil Justice
Criminal Justice
Energy and Natural

State and Local

Finance - Corrections

MEMORANDUM

To: All Republican Members
From: Senator Bill Seitz
Date: April 5, 2016
Re: ALEC 2016 Spring Task Force Summit

As a board member of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), I see the value of our spring meeting. As most states' sessions are well underway, and many states have already wrapped up theirs, this is the perfect opportunity for legislators to exchange ideas and compare and contrast what has and has not worked in 2016.

I encourage you to attend! This is a one day meeting, Friday May 6th, in Pittsburgh. This meeting will make you a better legislator for having attended. You can register using the information contained in the email. Legislators are eligible for up to \$350 in travel reimbursement and two nights on our hotel block.

I look forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh!

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The banner features a silhouette of the Pittsburgh skyline. On the left, a large vertical rectangle contains the text "Spring Task Force Summit" and "MAY 6, 2016 | PITTSBURGH, PA". To the right of the skyline, the text "2016 MAY 6" is displayed. Further right, the ALEC logo is shown, consisting of the word "ALEC" in a large, stylized font, with "American Legislative Exchange Council" written vertically to its right. Below the logo, the tagline "LIMITED GOVERNMENT • FREE MARKETS • FEDERALISM" is printed. At the bottom left, a dark arrow points right with the text ">> REGISTER NOW". Below this arrow, a paragraph of text reads: "No time to register online? Here at the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), we understand that your time is valuable and there are never enough hours in the day. We want to help!". On the bottom right, a smaller rectangle contains the text "43rd ALEC Annual Meeting" and "2016 JULY 27-29". Below this, the text "Save the date! Registration for our" is displayed.

If you're planning to attend the **Spring Task Force Summit**, but haven't yet registered, just give us a call! We will take care of everything for you over the phone in under 5 minutes.

Register for the Summit in 3 easy steps:

- 1. Have your credit card on hand**
- 2. Call 571-482-5026 (No answer? We're probably helping someone on the other line. Leave a message and we will call you back.)**
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Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, IN will open on April 4.

Questions?
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contact our **event staff**

This message was sent to seitz@ohiosenate.gov from:

Courtney Cook | CCook@alec.org | ALEC | 2900 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor |
Arlington, VA 22202

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William J. Seitz

State Senator
Oversight and Reform,
8th District
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Committees

Public Utilities, *Chair*
State Government

Civil Justice
Criminal Justice
Energy and Natural

State and Local

Finance – Corrections

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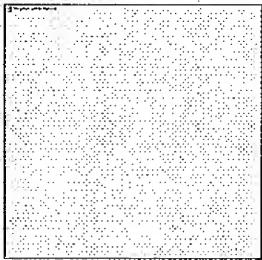
I look forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh!

From: The Buckeye Institute

Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 11:05 AM

To: Rep88

Subject: Just Released: Ohio Leapfrogged 30 Other States in New Rich States, Poor States Ranking



Buckeye Institute News Alert

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Earlier this morning economists Dr. Arthur B. Laffer, Jonathan Williams, and Stephen Moore released their 9th edition of Rich States, Poor States for the American Legislative Exchange Council.

RICH STATES, POOR STATES ECONOMIC OUTLOOK RANKING CHANGES FROM 2015 TO 2016



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Governor Kasich and the General Assembly have cut income tax rates, eliminated the death tax, and constrained some spending. Only Kansas has cut more in taxes than Ohio over the past nine years. These policies have helped Ohio move up from the 49th worst economic performance out of the 50 states to the 18th best in the new rankings. Ohio's improvement was the largest increase in the nation.